

# THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE 2007-2008 ANNUAL REPORT



Cover and title page illustration: Section of band with griffins with nail holes; bronze, OIM A35138 A. Ca. 550–330 B.C., Persepolis(?), Iran. The image represents one the griffins that decorate a bronze plaque used on a wooden door or column at Persepolis. Griffins appear in the iconography of Susiana (southwestern Iran), Sumer, and Egypt in the second half of the fourth millennium B.C. This particular style may have been passed on to the Achaemenids by their Elamite predecessors.

The pages that divide the sections of this year's report feature photographs of mythical creatures from the collection of the Oriental Institute.

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*The Oriental Institute, Chicago*

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***INTRODUCTION***

*Overleaf. Two winged ibexes with central cross-bar harness bit; bronze. OIM A7272.  
Early first millennium B.C., Luristan, Iran*

# INTRODUCTION

**Gil J. Stein**

As can be seen in the contents of this year's *Annual Report, 2007–2008* has been a year of important milestones for the Oriental Institute.

We continue to build our program of archaeological fieldwork, and during the past year conducted excavations and surveys at six important sites in Turkey, Syria, Egypt, and Sudan. The Neubauer Family Expedition to Zincirli, directed by David Schloen with Amir Sumakai Fink as Field Director, has been making major progress in using both magnetometry and excavation to explore the lower town of this important Iron Age city in southeast Turkey. At the same time, under the co-direction of Geoff Summers from the Middle East Technical University and Scott Branting from the Oriental Institute, remote sensing and excavations at Kerkenes Dağ have continued on the Anatolian plateau of Turkey. Taken together, the Kerkenes and Zincirli projects will allow us to compare the structure of Iron Age urbanism in roughly contemporaneous cities of both highland and lowland Anatolia. In northeast Syria, a joint expedition led by Clemens Reichel from the Oriental Institute and Salam al-Kuntar from the Syrian Antiquities Department has been revolutionizing our understanding of warfare, trade, and early urbanism in north Syria during the fourth and third millennia B.C. In Egypt, Mark Lehner continues his important work on the Giza plateau, investigating the major settlement complex in the shadow of the pyramids. In Middle Egypt, Assistant Professor Nadine Moeller conducted her first season of Oriental Institute-sponsored excavations at Edfu, one of the few surviving tells, or mounds, where it is possible to investigate the organization and functions of a provincial urban center in the Middle and New Kingdom. Finally, Bruce Williams and Geoff Emberling conducted their second season of salvage excavations in Sudan, focusing on the Kerma-period cemetery (ca. 2000 B.C.) at Hosh el-Guruf in the region of the Nile's Fourth Cataract. The archaeological sites in this important part of ancient Nubia will very soon be inundated and lost forever when the construction of the Merowe dam is completed. This project thus not only contributes to our overall understanding of the kingdom of Kush, but also makes a significant contribution to the preservation of cultural heritage in the Near East.

Our text-based research projects continue their work of developing fundamental tools of philological and lexicographic scholarship, while at the same time documenting unique and irreplaceable archives from Mesopotamia, Egypt, Anatolia, and Iran. Theo van den Hout and Harry Hoffner are ably editing the Chicago Hittite Dictionary, aided by Petra Goedegebuure with the assistance of Richard Beal and Oğuz Soysal. Martha Roth continues her work completing the final volume of the Chicago Assyrian Dictionary. Janet Johnson, with François Gaudard, is moving the Chicago Demotic Dictionary toward completion within the next three to four years. Matthew Stolper has been coordinating a large-scale emergency project to generate digital documentation of the Persepolis Fortification Archive, the collection of thousands of tablets that document the inner administrative workings of the Achaemenid Persian empire of Darius, ca. 500 B.C. This archive is threatened by an ongoing lawsuit that could result in its auction and dispersal into private art collections around the world. The University of Chicago and the Oriental Institute are continuing in their efforts to protect this irreplaceable item of cultural heritage from this fate. Finally, the Epigraphic Survey, directed by Ray Johnson, continues with its work of recording, conserving, and reconstructing the reliefs and architecture at Luxor and Medinet Habu. We are happy to acknowledge Oriental Institute Visiting Committee member Dr. Marjorie Fisher for her generous support of the Chicago House Library. This key research resource has now been named

## INTRODUCTION

the “Marjorie M. Fisher Library” in recognition of her commitment to the work of the Epigraphic Survey.

The Oriental Institute Museum has mounted two major special exhibits in this past year, thanks to the efforts of Museum Director Geoff Emberling and his talented staff. In fall 2007, guest curator Ian Manners organized the exhibit *European Cartographers and the Ottoman World, 1500–1750: Maps from the Collection of O. J. Sopranos*. In spring 2008, McGuire Gibson and Katharyn Hanson organized the powerful exhibit *Catastrophe! The Looting and Destruction of Iraq’s Past*.

I think we can all be especially proud of the Oriental Institute’s efforts in the protection of cultural heritage in the Near East. One project in particular stands out in this regard. Oriental Institute Head of Conservation Laura D’Alessandro developed the curriculum and wrote successful proposals for two National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) grants; a total of eight archaeological conservators from Middle Eastern countries currently experiencing armed conflict spent six months of intensive training at the Oriental Institute’s Conservation Laboratory. The selection of conservators was completed in consultation with the antiquities services of their home countries and the programs were customized to address the specific conservation needs of each country. Our goal is to develop a locally based core of trained conservation experts in each of these countries.

Education and outreach also form a key part of the Oriental Institute’s mission. One of our major accomplishments in this past year has been the development of the Kipper Family Archaeology Discovery Center, an interactive program in which students learn how to “excavate” and record artifacts buried in a simulated archaeological excavation site that has been constructed in the LaSalle Banks Room of the Oriental Institute. The students then relate their own experiences to the real artifacts in our Haas and Schwartz Megiddo Gallery. Carole Krucoff and Wendy Ennes from our Museum Education department have been instrumental in working with Susan Marcus (formerly of Chicago’s Spertus Institute) in the development of a curriculum and program materials for the Kipper Family Archaeology Discovery Center.

Finally, I am delighted to report that our Research Endowment Campaign, coordinated by Development Director Monica Witzak, has been highly successful in its efforts to build the financial infrastructure that makes possible the Oriental Institute’s work of discovery and education. At the end of year two, we have now raised half of the three-million dollar goal set for this five-year campaign. These efforts are essential to ensure the Institute’s ability to continue in the coming decades as a leader and innovator in research on the ancient Near East.

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## IN MEMORIAM

### Marion E. Cowan

This past year we were greatly saddened by the death of Marion Cowan, a true friend and longtime supporter of the Oriental Institute, who passed away in March 2007. Although she had a special fondness for ancient Egypt and the Epigraphic Survey, Marion's warm-hearted, generous, and intellectually curious presence was felt across the Institute's many programs and projects. Her love of other cultures led her to travel the world and to build an extensive personal library, much of which was devoted to the study of the ancient Near East.

Marion was a familiar face at the Institute's Members' Lecture series, making the trip from her home on the North Shore of Chicago to Hyde Park faithfully to hear lectures on a regular basis. She was a member of the Oriental Institute's Visiting Committee from 2002 until the time of her death. On behalf of all of us at the Oriental Institute, we would like to extend our deep sympathy to the many friends and family she leaves behind. Her friendship enriched us all, and we will miss her thoughtful advice and counsel.

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## PROJECT REPORTS

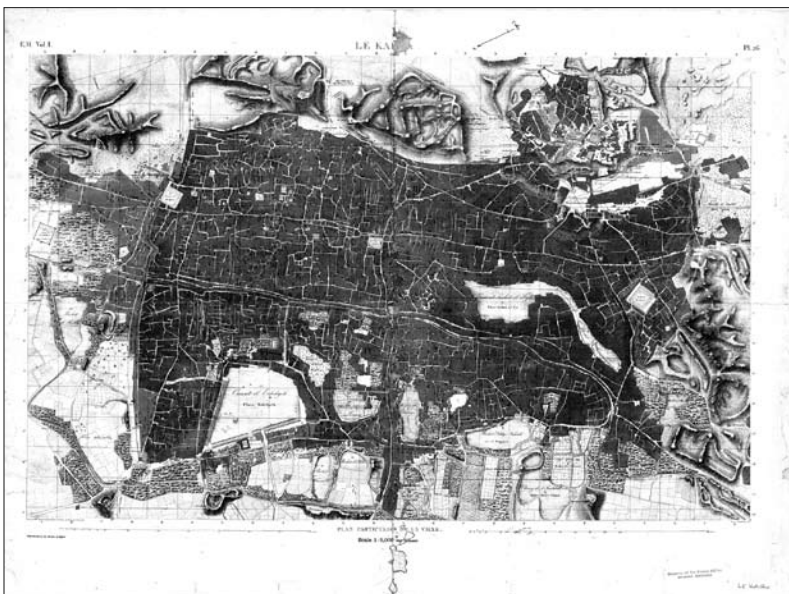


<http://oi.uchicago.edu/research/camel>

### Scott Branting

CAMEL has become instrumental in facilitating access for people within the Institute and around the world to various spatial technologies and an ever-expanding corpus of digital collections of maps, aerial photos, and satellite images pertaining to the Near East. Both the numbers of users and the numbers of geospatial data sources housed within the CAMEL digital collections continued to expand during 2007–2008. At the same time, the dedicated CAMEL staff and volunteers have continued to work through the tedious yet critical task of cataloging the over 3,000 new sources of data created or acquired this year and expanding the CAMEL database to facilitate searches of the massive collection.

A majority of the new data sources this year were from the completion of the scanning of the over 3,700 maps held within the map collections of the Research Archives (fig. 1). The large-format scanner and plotter acquired through a Provost's Program for Academic Technology Innovation (ATI) grant was critical to this process, as described in the 2006–2007 *Annual Report*, allowing CAMEL personnel to scan most of the large maps as a single document. However, the scanning of these maps, many of which are difficult to find elsewhere, was only a portion of the overall effort. Once scanned, research often had to be conducted in order to discover missing information about



*Figure 1. This 1829 map of Cairo is one of the earliest maps in CAMEL's holdings. It was produced during Napoleon's 1798 to 1801 expedition to Egypt. It shows the plans of neighborhoods and streets of the city as they existed in the early nineteenth century, information that cannot be found on more modern maps and satellite images*

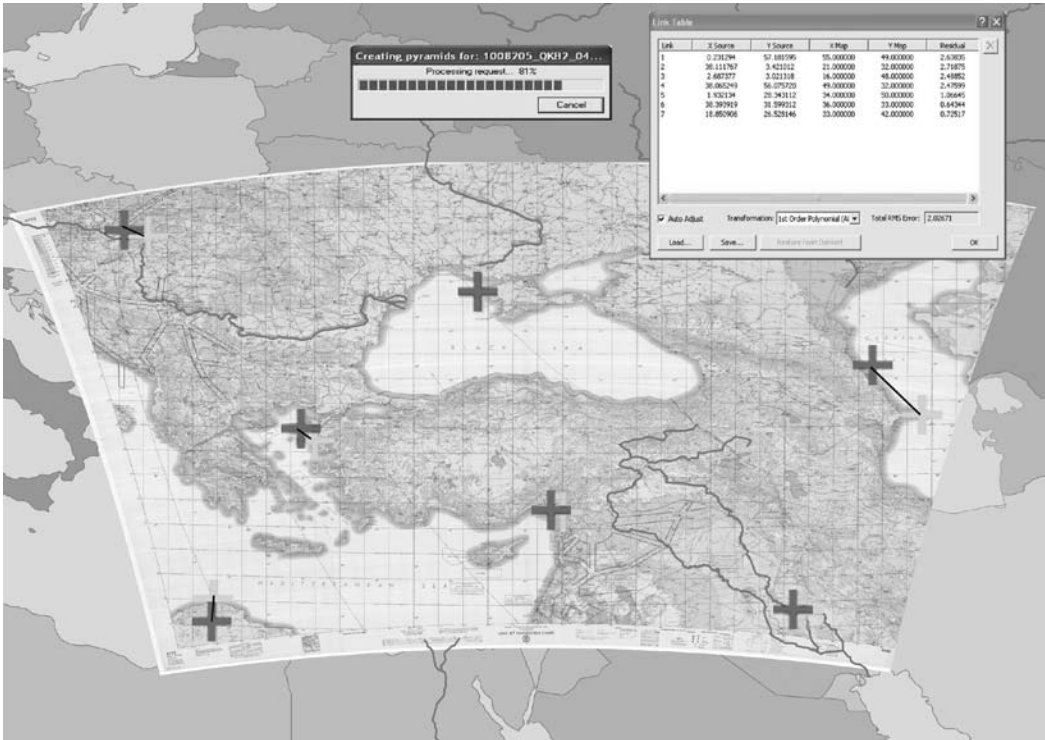


Figure 2. The process of georectification assigns real-world geographic coordinates to a digital image. Here, a CAMEL volunteer has assigned control points — points for which a real-world coordinate can be assigned (marked with a cross) — to georectify a scan of one of the maps in the CAMEL digital collection. The process often warps the original scan, but warps it in such a way that all the locations on the map are at their proper real-world coordinates



Figure 3. Images of the extensive standing basalt architecture at the Roman/Byzantine site of Umm el-Jimal in northern Jordan. On the left is an image of the site taken by a Corona KH-4B spy satellite in 1970, and on the right the same location as taken in 2003 by the Digital Globe Quickbird 2 satellite. Both the relative sharpness of these two high-resolution satellite images and the changes during the intervening decades can be noted in this comparison

each map and map series for the cataloging process. In addition, each map is being georectified by CAMEL personnel. Georectification is a process by which the map has its coordinates on the surface of the earth digitally encoded within the data file (fig. 2). This allows the digital overlay of different maps of the same area for comparison, as well as the overlay of other forms of geospatial data within Geographic Information System (GIS) software. Over half of the maps from the Research Archives have been georectified this year with the remainder to be completed within the next year.

A second major area of ongoing work within the CAMEL digital collections was the georectification of the 1,111 declassified U.S. spy satellite images. Over half these images were acquired last year through a grant from the Women's Board of the University of Chicago. The georectification of these data sources is an important ongoing project that will take several years to complete. Going hand in hand with these georectifications of spy satellite images from the 1960s through 1980s are the digitization and georectification of even earlier aerial photographs taken by Institute researchers from the 1920s on.

The acquisition of additional high-resolution commercial Quickbird satellite imagery was a final area of expansion among the CAMEL digital collections. Thirty images were acquired through the generosity of an ATI grant, while additional images were acquired through CAMEL on behalf of individuals and projects (fig. 3). Once again, CAMEL was also involved in a special tasking of the Quickbird satellite in order to acquire new imagery from the satellite in real time. In this case, the tasking was for the site of Umma in Iraq in support of the Museum's special exhibit, *Catastrophe! The Looting and Destruction of Iraq's Past* (fig. 4).



*Figure 4. Recent developments in Iraq have left a number of archaeological sites vulnerable to damage and looting. Recent satellite images can help to quantify the damage that is occurring. This high-resolution Digital Globe Quickbird image of Umma (Tell Jokha) was acquired by the satellite on July 8, 2008, at the request of CAMEL for the special exhibit *Catastrophe! The Looting and Destruction of Iraq's Past*. It shows the systematic looting that has left a lunar landscape pocked by hundreds of pits interspersed throughout the late third-millennium remains. This image is being compared with an earlier satellite image taken in 2003 to assess what damage has taken place since that time*

## CAMEL

The requests for data and information that CAMEL received continued to increase to over sixty from around the world during 2007–2008. This is in addition to the scores of requests from within the Institute for use of the facilities, expertise, and specialized equipment that CAMEL provides. CAMEL also continues to support the teaching and research of students, individuals, and Institute project personnel through formal coursework and individualized training. This includes the Museum Education course taught by CAMEL Associate Director Joshua Trampier, “Spying on the Ancients,” in fall 2007. In spring 2008 CAMEL also had the pleasure of hosting its very first Visiting Scholar, Jessie Birkett-Rees, an advanced doctoral student from the University of Melbourne in Australia.

Not all CAMEL’s work was focused on the Near East. Some work was a bit closer to home, as CAMEL also provided expertise, data, and equipment in support of the College of the University of Chicago’s archaeological field school at the site of the 1893 World’s Columbian Exposition in Jackson Park. This excavation, led by Rebecca Graff, used Quickbird imagery provided by CAMEL along with a georectified map of the famous “White City” exposition buildings in a Global Positioning System (GPS)-enabled tablet PC in much the same way as was pioneered earlier in the year at Kerkenes Dağ in Turkey. In this case, however, CAMEL personnel used the tablet PC to locate many of the footprints of the exposition structures and pavilions in the grass and trees of Jackson Park (fig. 5). This information was then used to situate the excavations that have been ongoing there throughout portions of the year.



*Figure 5. CAMEL personnel assisting Rebecca Graff and team members at the University of Chicago’s archaeological field school in Jackson Park, the site of the 1893 World’s Columbian Exposition. Using Digital Globe Quickbird data from CAMEL’s collections and a georectified map of the exposition’s buildings, the team used a GPS-enabled tablet PC to find the locations of the buildings behind the Museum of Science and Industry*

CAMEL could not exist without our staff and volunteers who give of their time to make all these projects possible. During this year Joshua Trampier served as Associate Director and Robert Tate as Assistant Director of CAMEL. Elise MacArthur and Susan Penacho were our Senior Supervisors. Lori Calabria, Joseph Phillips, Joel Wright, Ndah Somdah, and Bryan Kraemer were Student Assistants. Our volunteers for 2007–2008 were: Alex Apostal, Alex Elwyn, Alex Muir, Alphonse Lembo, Deborah Friedrich, Gaby Cohen, Harold Sanders, Jim Boves, Julie Malakie, Kathryn Stanhagen, Larry Lissak, Marc Block, and Ronald Wideman. I would also like to personally thank all those who have donated financially or in contributions of data to the continued work of CAMEL throughout this year.



# CHATAL HÖYÜK PUBLICATION PROJECT

Marina Pucci

## General Introduction

In 1930, a letter of the well-known historian and philologist Dr. Emile Forrer drove the attention of the Oriental Institute toward the large mound of Chatal Höyük on the eastern part of the Amuq plain in the Hatay province of Turkey; the letter suggested that this mound could be identified with the Iron Age capital Khunaluha (fig. 1). One year later, the Oriental Institute began archaeological activities on this mound and continued them over a period of four years (1932–1936), bringing to light domestic units on a large extent over the whole area of the mound. The archeological team of the Oriental Institute, directed for the most part by I. McEwan, pursued excavations on the mound at the same time as other investigations on neighboring mounds (Tell Tayinat, Tell Dahab, Tell Judeideh, Tell Kurdu) and in the last years at the same time as a survey of the whole Amuq plain. During the excavations, however, it became evident that the mound of Tell Tayinat, where numerous representative structures, inscriptions, and carved orthostats were found, was to be identified with the Iron Age town center of Khunaluha.

However, the site of Chatal Höyük revealed a large village continuously occupied during the Late Bronze and Iron Age periods and provided an extremely large amount of pottery from all occupational periods.

The materials (small finds and pottery sherds) collected during the excavations at Chatal Höyük were divided between the Oriental Institute Museum in Chicago and the Antakya Museum in Turkey. Approximately 1,800 of the 8,000 inventoried small finds, 100 complete vessels, and 17,000 pottery sherds were brought to Chicago. Some of the objects are currently visible on



*Figure 1. General view of the mound of Chatal Höyük (1932)*

## CHATAL HÖYÜK PUBLICATION PROJECT

exhibit in the Oriental Institute Museum, while the majority is kept in the Museum storerooms. The documentation records — field notebooks, architectural drawings, object register, notes — were also brought to the Oriental Institute and are kept in the Museum Archives. The staff and the volunteers of the Oriental Institute Museum have provided the objects and pottery sherds with inventory numbers and have entered the data into the Museum database. This process was completed for the Chatal Höyük materials in March 2008.

### Historical and Archaeological Overview

Recent excavations and better knowledge of the history of the second and first millennia in the Hatay area have revealed a variegated and changing political situation. In the second half of the second millennium B.C., the area of the Amuq was part of the Hittite empire and was ruled from the province capital of Carchemish. After the collapse of the Hittite empire in the thirteenth century B.C., this region lacked a central power. While several settlements, including Ugarit and Alalakh, were destroyed, probably as a consequence of external raids from the Mediterranean Sea (by the so-called Sea People), others, such as Carchemish and Kinet Höyük, were continuously inhabited. In the tenth century B.C., the region became one of the independent Syro-Hittite kingdoms that occupied northwestern Syria and southeastern Turkey. This kingdom, known as Unqi/Pattina, kept its independence until the Assyrian invasion and the conquest of its capital, Tell Tayinat/Khunalua, in 738 B.C. The region was then transformed into an Assyrian province, called Kullani, which had a local governor. After the collapse of the Assyrian empire, the area continued to be inhabited. Since the tenth century the area was characterized by the arrival and diffusion of Aramean and Phoenician languages witnessing the presence, mainly for the Arameans, of other group of peoples living in the region.

The materials from the older phases (Neolithic period to the end of the third millennium) collected during the the survey and small soundings were published in *Mounds in the Plain of Antioch: An Archaeological Survey*, by Robert J. Braidwood (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1937; OIP 48); and *Excavations in the Plain of Antioch*, by Robert J. Braidwood, Linda S. Braidwood, and Richard C. Haines (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1960; OIP 61). However, materials dating to the later phases (second and first millennia B.C.) obtained by the extensive excavations were never published. Consequently, 95 percent of all materials from Chatal Höyük and the stratigraphic sequence of the mound have never been published or completely analyzed.

### Relevance of the Project in the Archaeology of the Near East

Archaeological materials coming from the Amuq are important for the information they contribute to the chronology of the Amuq, a region characterized by a relatively small number of textual sources. Moreover, due to the regional character of the Iron Age kingdoms, the material culture changes only very slightly from one region to the next, rendering a pottery sequence for the Syro-Hittite centers difficult to establish. Few archaeological materials from recent excavations in the Amuq (as Kinet Höyük) have been published in the last twenty years; moreover, these never equal the number of pottery sherds and small finds collected during the Chatal Höyük excavations. This site remains the largest excavated area in the region and consequently represents the largest pottery assemblage. Its publication would provide researchers with a valuable reference for future excavations.

Because Chatal Höyük is one of the few extensively excavated “village” sites, a functional analysis of the materials within their spatial context can shed light on the urban organization of a village in a specific time period and on the connections to the “capital” of the region.

## The Publication Project

Many different reasons — not least of which is the sheer quantity of materials — have postponed the analysis and publication of the excavations at Chatal Höyük. Thanks to the activities of the Amuq Regional Survey, which were resumed in 1995, attention was driven again toward the necessity of publishing the results of the old excavations. The Oriental Institute and the Amuq committee support the resumption of research on these excavations and have given me permission to work on the materials and stratigraphy of Chatal Höyük. This research is financed by a grant of the Shelby White-Leon Levy Program for Archaeological Publications.

The work began in Chicago in November 2006 and is still in progress. We focused first on a general inventory of the documents kept in the Oriental Institute Archives, which are of particular relevance in order to better understand the archeological context of the small finds and pottery. In order to provide a complete stratigraphical (and consequently chronological) sequence, the analysis of these materials cannot be based on stylistic criteria without considering their findspot.

All documents have been inventoried, and it was possible to distinguish three kinds of written documents: (1) documents related to the organization of the excavations (letters, telegrams, short reports, official communications between the Institute and the archaeologists), (2) original documents produced in the field (field notebooks, architectural drawings, field photos or negatives of small finds), and (3) secondary documents produced after the end of the archaeological investigations by scholars or students who were dealing with single groups of artifacts, mainly from a stylistic point of view. In parallel to the vital information on the stratigraphy of the site, this analysis has brought to light relevant information on the internal organization of work in the field, the turn over of the directors, as well as the expectations and wishes of the Oriental Institute and of the archaeologists. For example, it became evident by studying these documents that, although the mound was revealing a large settlement rich in small finds and pottery, the absence of monumental structures disappointed the archaeologists, who were looking for structures, statues, and carved orthostats as had been found in other Syro-Hittite capitals (i.e., Tell Halaf, Zincirli, and Carchemish). In fact, the unspectacular character of the settlement and its relative unimportance in the political scene saved the site from sudden and large-scale destructions and guaranteed continuity during a very troubled historical period (fig. 2).

The most relevant documents (such as the original notebooks) have been scanned and retyped in

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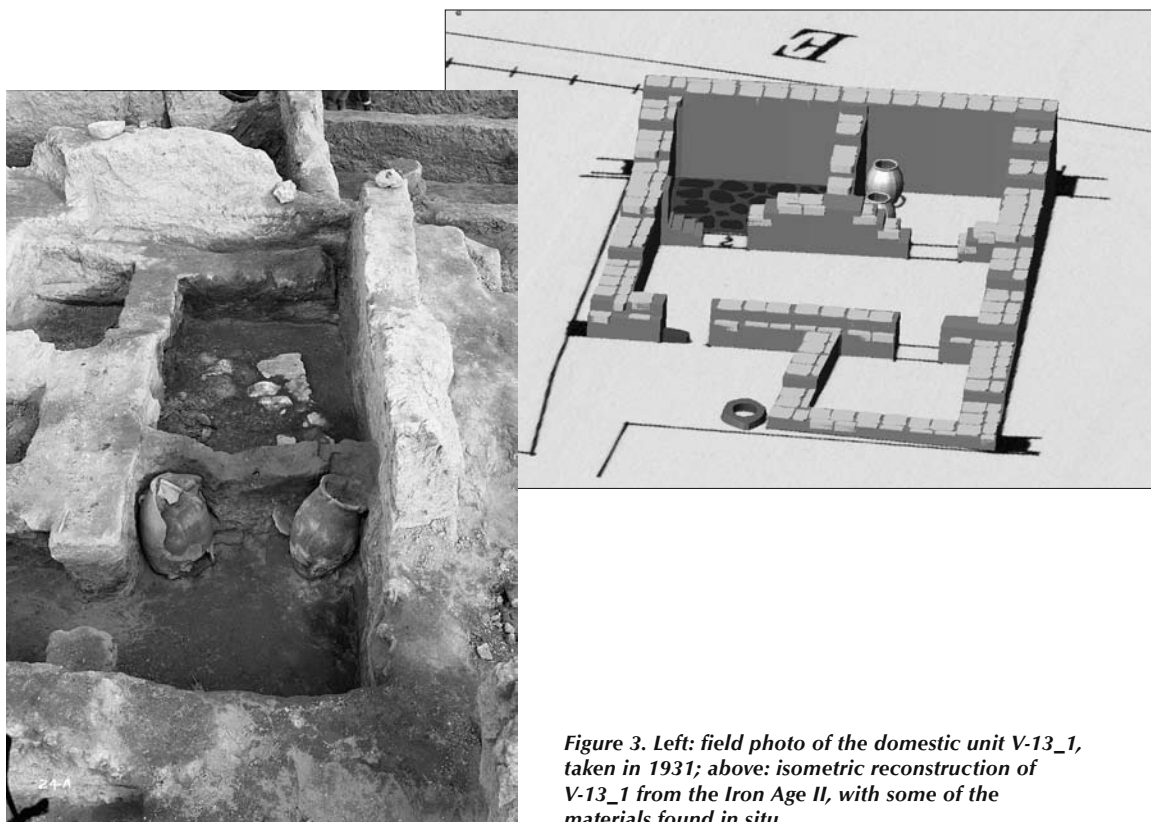
Figure 2. 1933 telegram from the director of excavation I. McEwan to the Oriental Institute

## CHATAL HÖYÜK PUBLICATION PROJECT

order to better preserve this source of information. Original architectural drawings were also digitized with AutoCAD and have been in part reconstructed in three dimensions (fig. 3).

Due to the fact that a database including all information on written documents, their features, and their location in the Archives is at the disposal of the Museum Archivist, future research dealing with the Amuq excavations of the 1930s will be simplified. Additionally, every object from Chatal Höyük kept in the Museum has been described and photographed, and this information has been entered in a general database created especially for the Chatal Höyük publication; this database will be the basis of the catalog. The database also includes all small finds that were left in Turkey; the accuracy in the description done by the archaeologists and the photographs of the objects taken in the field allow a preliminary description that will be proofed by future analysis at the Antakya Museum (fig. 4).

Several interesting aspects became evident through the analysis of the objects. A large quantity of small finds shows evident relationships to Egypt and demonstrates also that many objects, mainly belonging to the category of amulets, were either directly imported from Egypt or locally made by Egyptians, indicating the existence either of very tight commercial connections with Egypt or the presence of Egyptian artisans. Considering the stamp seals, it is possible to point out three main groups: (1) the handled seals belonging to a local tradition, which were in continuous use during the whole period and reveal an unchanging local tradition; (2) the stamp seals in the form of scarabs or scaraboids (both imported and imitated) which are more numerous mainly in the Iron Age II–III levels and attest to a high point of interaction with Egypt during this period; and (3) the double convex seals that were found mainly in Late Bronze Age and Iron Age levels, indicating tight relationships with Anatolia for those periods.



*Figure 3. Left: field photo of the domestic unit V-13\_1, taken in 1931; above: isometric reconstruction of V-13\_1 from the Iron Age II, with some of the materials found in situ*

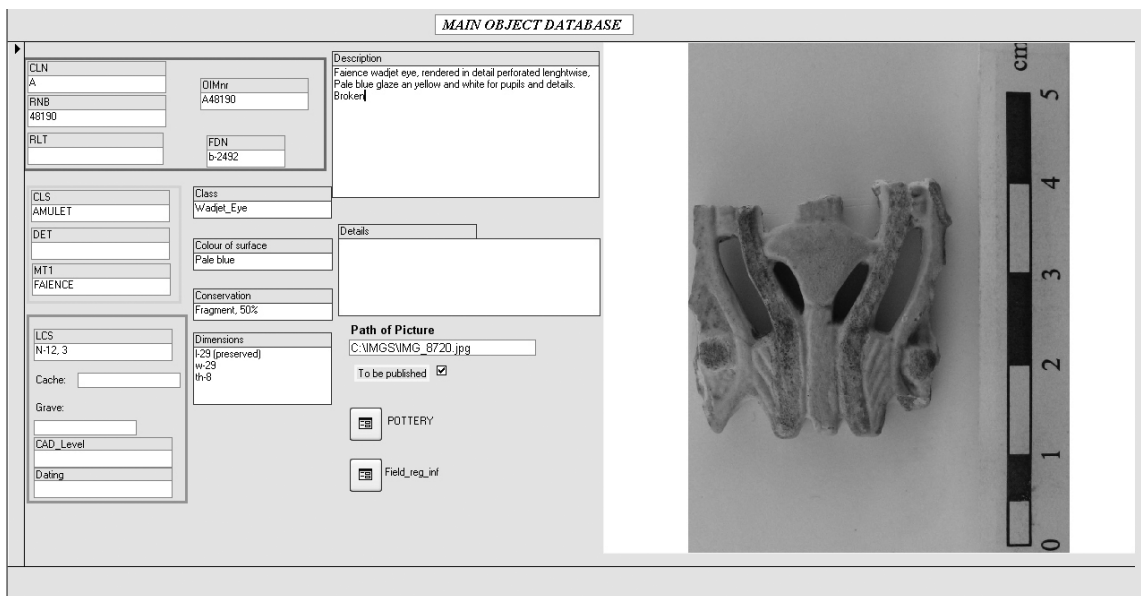


Figure 4. Screenshot of the Chatal Höyük database: example of Egyptian wadjet eye

In a third phase, pottery became the focus of the analysis, considering that it constitutes the basic element of reference for comparisons with other sites in the region (fig. 5). The number of pottery sherds collected and brought to Chicago is enormous and it was a great undertaking for the Museum Archivist and the volunteers to provide them with inventory numbers. The analysis of this material proceeded using the following method: the sherds were first sorted according to their archaeological context and the pottery horizon of each locus was described. Then, every sherd with a clear archaeological context was described according to the usual criteria employed in the analysis of pottery, that is, by fabric, shape, surface treatment, and decoration. Graduate student Tamara Leviton began this long and exhausting work in November 2006 and kept working on it until June 2007, when we finished recording all sherds. She will start again in October illustrating the sherds that have been selected for publication.

The pottery reflects the historical changes that occurred in the region; tendencies also emerged from the analysis of the small finds, which were witness to the strong connections during the late Bronze Age with the northern Hittite tradition, including standardized pottery belonging to the Hittite pottery production, which perfectly fits with the political dependence of this region to the Hittite kingdom. During this period, the external imports seem to be very limited and to have originated from the southwestern area of the region (Alalakh) and from Cyprus. These imports represent less than 5 percent of all sherds collected in this pottery horizon.

During the Iron Age I period, the pottery assemblage underwent fundamental changes. Painted imports from the Mediterranean area became popular and their local imitations constitute the majority of the collected sherds. A few other shapes (for example, cooking bowls) were kept in use and changed gradually over time. The painted pottery of this period shows a variety of shapes, a low level of standardization, and a general tendency toward experiments in imitating foreign shapes. In sum, the evidence indicates that the Iron Age I was a period of frequent contacts and exchanges with the Mediterranean area and apparently without strong centralized control.

The transition to the Iron Age II and III occurred more gradually. Local imitations continued, but on a smaller scale, while a new surface treatment — red slip — appeared and gradually

## CHATAL HÖYÜK PUBLICATION PROJECT

became the most commonly used pottery type, with shapes undergoing an evident standardization and a decrease in variety. It therefore seems evident that a slight change occurred at the site and that there was a tendency toward higher centralized control in the pottery production, which lasted until the end of the Iron Age. It remains particularly interesting that the appearance and development of the red-slip ware seems to be related to the arrival of Aramean peoples in the region. The almost complete absence of Assyrian pottery (limited to a handful of sherds) seems to exclude the presence at the site of Assyrian peoples during a period of military occupation of the region.



*Figure 5. Woman with child washing pottery sherds at Chatal Höyük (1931)*

This might indicate that the unimportance of the site made an Assyrian presence unnecessary.

### **Future Plans and Publication**

The basic work in the analysis of stratigraphy, small finds, and pottery is finished and the catalog of materials is complete. Future work will deal mainly with the preparation of the manuscript for publication, which will include numerous illustrations, field photos, and architectural reconstructions in order to provide a comprehensive reference work. The drawing phase started in July 2008 and will last probably at least a year, considering the large number of objects that need to be drawn. Illustrator Angela Altenhofen will be responsible for the pencil drawings of small finds and complete vessels. She will also train Tamara Leviton, who has already worked on the pottery analysis, to draw the pottery sherds. This organization has two positive aspects: Tamara,

who is already familiar with the pottery corpus from Chatal Höyük, will also illustrate it. This activity also provides a chance for a student to be trained in a specific and important aspect of archaeology.

At the same time, I am preparing the text on the basic analysis of the stratigraphy and pottery, and brief chapters on specific classes of finds. External contributors will analyze other groups of finds that require specific examination, such as texts, seals, and Egyptian imports. Due to the fact that it will not be possible to publish drawings and photos of every single object or sherd, we plan to publish the database, which includes all information concerning objects and pottery, photos of each object, all stratigraphical data and field photos, in a digital form (either a CD included in the publication or an online publication in the Oriental Institute home page). This will allow other scholars with the necessary tools to pursue specific research on all classes of materials.

This project owes a great debt of gratitude to Museum Registrar Helen McDonald and to Museum Archivist John Larson: both of them have provided me with the necessary documentation and information. Special thanks are due also to Gretel Braidwood, who with other volunteers helped with the registration of the Chatal Höyük sherds; and to Oriental Institute Director Gil Stein, to David Schloen, and to Aslihan Yener for their support and encouragement.

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## CHICAGO ASSYRIAN DICTIONARY (CAD)

### Martha T. Roth

The 2,300-page manuscript of the final volume of the Chicago Assyrian Dictionary, Volume U/W, was mailed to Eisenbrauns Book Publishers in June and July 2007, and we began receiving set galleys back in September. By the end of this academic year, more than one-half of the volume has been set as galleys. These galleys, in batches of 100 galley pages, are distributed as they arrive in Chicago to the resident editorial board (Robert D. Biggs, John A. Brinkman, Miguel Civil, Walter Farber, Martha T. Roth, and Matthew W. Stolper) for suggestions and comments.

Linda McLarnan, our Manuscript Editor since 1986, continues to lend her expert proofreading skills even as she is employed in the office of the President of the University; Linda will continue overseeing the final publication of the last volume. This year, Edward Stratford, a graduate student in NELC, joined our team as Research Assistant after spending a year at the University of Copenhagen researching his dissertation under the supervision of our colleague Mogens Trolle Larsen. Ed succeeds Jacob Lauinger, who finished his Ph.D. in 2007 and accepted an assistant professorship at Roanoke College; and John Nielsen, who finished his Ph.D. in 2008 and accepted an assistant professorship at Loyola University New Orleans. We also continue to be aided by College student Erin Guinn-Villareal, who willingly and eagerly accomplished all manner of tasks.

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## CHICAGO DEMOTIC DICTIONARY (CDD)


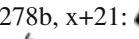
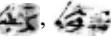

François Gaudard and Janet H. Johnson

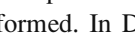

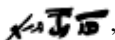



















This year the staff of the Chicago Demotic Dictionary — Janet Johnson, François Gaudard, and Mary Szabady — have continued to check and prepare more letter files for publication. Foy Scalf left us to become the Head of the Oriental Institute Research Archives. We have been assisted by several volunteers: Janelle Pisarik, who started to check the Text Information and Abbreviations Authors files (we are delighted to note that she has now been admitted to our graduate Egyptology program, after having already studied Egyptology as an undergraduate); Oriental Institute volunteer Larry Lissak, who scanned for us photographs of various Demotic papyri, ostraca, and other inscriptions which we need in order to prepare our own scans and hand copies for the dictionary; and graduate students Humphrey H. Hardy II, Charles J. Otte III, Benjamin D. Thomas, and Jacqueline E. Vayntrub, who helped us check some of the Hebrew and Aramaic references cited in the letter files on which we have been working. Our continuing efforts to finish the font conversion were assisted by Clay Smith.





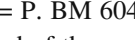


During the course of the year we have completed the letters W, Š, and P, which will be posted online shortly. Letters M and Ḥ are having their final checks carried out, and letters Ḳ, S, and T remain in rough draft, waiting final check and preparation of scans and hand copies.

Since May 29, 2008, all the published volumes of the Oriental Institute's primary dictionary projects (Chicago Assyrian Dictionary, Chicago Demotic Dictionary, Chicago Hittite Dictionary) have become available on the Institute Web site. All the Demotic Dictionary files are searchable, in electronic format as Adobe Acrobat (.pdf) files, and downloadable from the Oriental Institute Web site at <http://oi.uchicago.edu/research/pubs/catalog/>. This was made possible thanks to the hard work of John Sanders, Thomas Urban, Leslie Schramer, Katie L. Johnson, and the rest of the Publications Office staff. We would like to thank all of them very much, as well as the Electronic Publications Committee and the Oriental Institute voting members, who have always given their full support to this publication effort.





As a matter of interest, the Demotic script (from Greek δημοτική “popular [script]”), which is the most cursive Egyptian script, was first used during the Twenty-sixth Dynasty, under the reign of Pharaoh Psammetichus I, around 650 B.C. It is derived from a less cursive script named hieratic (from Greek ἱερατική “priestly, sacerdotal [script]”), itself derived from the hieroglyphic script (from Greek ἱερογλυφικά “sacred carvings”). Both Demotic and hieratic were always written from right to left. Originally, Demotic was used only for business and everyday affairs (administrative, legal, and economic documents), but later it was also used for literary, religious, and scientific texts. By then the use of hieratic was mainly limited to religious compositions. While in Early Demotic it is often still possible to recognize the hieratic equivalent of a Demotic sign, it becomes much more difficult by the Ptolemaic period (332–30 B.C.), when the Demotic script differentiated itself even more from its hieratic ancestor. As one can expect, the handwriting of one scribe could differ greatly from that of another, and the same sign could look quite different depending on the person who wrote it. It is these types of variant writings that we would like to discuss here.

In the same text, the same word or group could sometimes be spelled in several different ways by the same scribe. As an example, in P. Berlin 8278, let us consider the word *ḥšb* “to mutilate,” which is spelled in three different ways: *ḥšb* (with  $\zeta$  and  $\text{𐤊}$ ) in P. Berlin 8278a, x+10: ; *ḥšb* (with  $\zeta$  and  $\times$ ) in P. Berlin 8278b, x+21:  and x+22: ; and *ḥšb* (with  $\xi$  and  $\times$ ) in P. Berlin 8278a, x+10: . All these writings are of course perfectly correct.

The so-called “hieraticizing writings” are of great interest; in this case the scribe decided to use a writing close to the hieratic script (for a sign or a whole word) instead of the expected Demotic one. Let us examine a few examples, starting with the word *pr-nfr* “house of rejuvenation,” which literally means “good house.” This euphemistic designation refers to the embalming workshop in which mummification was performed. In Demotic this word is usually written <sup>1</sup>, with a Demotic writing of the *nfr*-group as . In P. Cairo 31179, 1/14, however, this word is written , with a clearly hieraticizing writing of the same group as  (cf. the hieratic writing of this sign, e.g., in P. Rhind I, 4h7:  or II, 9h1: , as given in Möller’s *Hieratische Paläographie*, vol. 3, p. 16, #180). It even looks almost like the original hieroglyphic sign , which is sometimes also drawn with two horizontal strokes instead of one. Another good example is the word *ḥtꜣ Mꜣ.t* “Maat” in the magical text of P. BM 10588, 2/2, written with a typical Demotic feather:  (preceded in this case by the letter  M used as a phonetic complement). However, in P. BM 10588, 1/3, the same word *Mꜣ.t* is written , with a hieraticizing feather:  (cf. the same sign in hieratic, e.g., in P. Tanis [= P. Berlin 7809], 4/3: , or in the linen mummy bandage (Leinwand) [= P. Berlin 3073], 3/3:  in Möller’s *Hieratische Paläographie*, vol. 3, p. 22, #236). As a last example, let us examine the writing of the *nb.t*-group in the divine name *Nb.t-ḥw.t* “Nephthys” in P. Berlin 8278b, x+12:  and in P. Berlin 8278c, x+4: . In both cases we are dealing with the regular Demotic writing of this group as , but in P. Berlin 8278b, x+13:  and x+14: , the same word is written with a hieraticizing writing of the *nb.t*-group:  (cf. the hieratic equivalent of the *nb*-group [without the feminine *.t* ending: , e.g., in P. Berlin 3135, 2/4:  and 3/5: , in Möller’s *Hieratische Paläographie*, vol. 3, p. 49, #510).

Non-etymological writings are also a very interesting phenomenon. A non-etymological writing is a writing whose spelling does not take the etymology into account. In English, for example, the writing of the word “pharmacy” conforms to its Greek etymology by rendering the letter φ as “ph.” Such is also the case in French with “*pharmacie*.” In Italian and Spanish, however, we are dealing with a non-etymological writing of the same word as “*farmacia*” where “ph” was replaced by the letter “f,” which does not reflect the original spelling of this word. In Demotic, non-etymological writings occur mainly in texts from the Roman period. Thus, in P. BM 10072, 1–2: *ḥḥ pꜣyꜣt by rpyꜣf rḥꜣf r ḥḥ d.t* “May your soul live, may it be rejuvenated, may it live forever and ever!” the first occurrence of the verb , *ḥḥ* “to live” is perfectly normal: , while the second one is written like the verb *rḥ* “to know”: , but the context makes it clear that the meaning of this word is “to live.” Non-etymological writings can also be used to write royal names: Menkheperre (*Mn-ḥpr-Rꜣ* ) , the prenomen of pharaoh Thutmose III (1479–1425 B.C.), meaning “May the Manifestation (= *ḥpr*) of Re (= *Rꜣ*) Endure (= *Mn*),” is spelled *Mnh-pꜣ-Rꜣ* in P. Setna II (= P. BM 604 vo), 3/32: , which means “Pre is excellent,” as if it were composed of the words *Mnh* “to be excellent” and *pꜣ Rꜣ* “Pre.”<sup>2</sup> It is exactly as if in English the word “belief” were spelled with the words “bee” and “leaf” as “beeleaf.” Another interesting example is the writing of the name of the land of Punt ( *Pwnt*), which is spelled *Pꜣ-wꜣny* in P. Mythus (= P. Leiden 384 ro), 11/10: , as if it were a writing of the definite article *pꜣ* followed by the name of the juniper tree, namely *wꜣn*. The land of Punt, whose location has been long disputed, provided Egypt with incense and myrrh, as well as many other exotic products. It became especially famous after the discovery of the reliefs in Queen Hatchepsut’s mortuary temple at Deir-el-Bahari depicting her expedition to this land.

Some non-etymological writings seem also to reflect later reinterpretations of a word or a name. Such is the case with Herishef, the ram-headed god venerated at Heracleopolis in the twelfth Upper-Egyptian nome, whose name is attested as Ἡρισφής in Greek and as *Hr-šf* in

Demotic, for example in P. Rylands 9, 8/1: . Although *Hr-šf* is generally understood as derived from *Hry-š=f* “He who is upon his lake”<sup>3</sup> and is so written in earlier phases of Egyptian (e.g.,  or ) , later writings of the word suggest that it had been reinterpreted as  *Hr-šfy* “ram-faced,”<sup>4</sup> or “majestic-face(d).”<sup>5</sup> This phenomenon can also be observed in English: “goodbye,” for example, is derived from “God be with you.” Earlier spellings of this expression include among others the forms “God be wy you,” and “god buy’ye.” Later on the word “god” was reinterpreted as “good” by analogy with expressions such as “good night” and “good day,” probably because the original meaning was no longer obvious. As for the word “sparrowgrass,” it is nothing but a reinterpretation of “sparagus,” a colloquial variant of “asparagus,” by folk etymology. Likewise, in Greek, the ancient interpretation of the word Ἀμαζόνες “Amazons,” as meaning “the breastless ones” (from privative α- “without,” and μάζος “breast”), by reference to the belief that these fierce female warriors amputated their right breast in order to draw the bow more easily, is very probably incorrect. The exact etymology of this word is still debated. According to one interpretation, it may derive from the name of an Iranian tribe \**ha-ma-zan*, namely, “warriors.”<sup>6</sup> Note that the Amazon River takes its name from the fact that, in 1542, the conquistador Francisco de Orellana claimed to have encountered women warriors in that area. In all likelihood, those were simply long-haired male Indians. This interesting anecdote brings us back to Demotic since the Amazons and their queen are the main characters of a Demotic literary composition from the Roman period usually referred to as *Egyptians and Amazons* and belonging to the Story-Cycle of King Petubastis. In this text, the queen’s name is Serpot, unlike in Greek mythology where she is called Hippolyte. A famous passage depicts the Egyptian prince Pedikhons and the queen falling in love after fighting in one-on-one combat.

Although all the variants discussed above — orthographical, hieraticizing, and non-etymological — make it all the more difficult to read and understand Demotic texts, they are also one aspect of the richness of the Demotic script and language, rendering them even more challenging and attractive to scholars.

## Notes

<sup>1</sup> See W. Erichsen, *Demotisches Glossar* (Copenhagen, 1954), p. 133.

<sup>2</sup> *p*ʃ *R*ʿ, lit. “the Re,” is a common designation of the god Re during the Greco-Roman period, usually rendered in English as “Pre.”

<sup>3</sup> “He who is upon (= *Hry*) his lake (= *š=f*).”

<sup>4</sup> “ram (= *šfy*)-faced (= *hr*)” (see *Wb* 4, 457/1).

<sup>5</sup> “majestic (= *šfy*)-face(d) (= *hr*)” (see P. Magical [= P. BM 10070 + P. Leiden 383 ] 11/6).

<sup>6</sup> See, e.g., P. Chantraine, *Dictionnaire étymologique de la langue grecque: Histoire des mots* (Paris, 1990), p. 69a; H. Frisk, *Griechisches Etymologisches Wörterbuch*, Band 1: *A–Ko*. Indogermanische Bibliothek, II. Reihe-Wörterbücher (Heidelberg, 1960), pp. 83–84.

## CHICAGO HITTITE DICTIONARY (CHD)

### Theo van den Hout

The past year saw the transition from the final editing of manuscripts on words starting in *ši-* to words in *šū-*, the final phase of what will be the last installment of the letter Š. The first group included the Hittite word *šiwat-* “day,” which goes back to a reconstructed Proto-Indo-European root *\*dieu-*, also known from Greek (*Zeus*, the god of daylight) and Latin (*dies* “day,” but also *Zeus’* Roman counterpart *Iu-ppiter* from *\*Diu-ppiter*) and ultimately also the source for our English “day.” Among the words beginning with *šū-* there are such simple-looking but difficult and important ones as *šū* “and.” In the coming year we have to tackle entries like *šup-* and *šuppariya-* “to sleep” related to Latin *sopor* “deep sleep” (compare English “sopor-ific”) and Greek *hypnos* “sleep.” All this editing work is done by Theo van den Hout and Harry Hoffner, assisted by Petra Goedegebuure.

Meanwhile, Research Associates Richard Beal and Oğuz Soysal have continued their advance into words in T. Having left behind most entries starting in *ta-*, both are already working on first drafts of words beginning with *ti-*.

Kathleen Mineck and undergraduate student Anna Maccourt continued their work on the upkeep of the CHD photo and lexical files. With the efficient help of Anna, the transliterations and cards for KBo 40–41 have been finished and are in the filing stage. Further transliterations currently in progress are KBo 42, KBo 47, and KBo 53.

As far as the digital part of our dictionary project, the *eCHD*, is concerned, the material from Volumes L through P has undergone extensive clean-up (required because of the original conversion to electronic format) and standardization over the past two years. This past year has primarily been devoted to making the existing data more robust and meaningful.

The material that we received from the *Hethitologie Portal Mainz* identifying the tablets on which the textual material was found, and detailing the publication information of those texts, was converted into proper OCHRE (Online Cultural Heritage Research Environment) format and integrated into the dictionary articles. The goal of this was to ensure that every reference to a particular text in the dictionary articles was linked to a description of the text, and to its corresponding tablet. This information is available to the readers of the online electronic version via



*Chicago Consul General of Turkey, Kenan Ipek, Gil Stein, Ali Babacan, Theo van den Hout, and David Schloen*

hyperlinks. Utilities were developed to allow this linking process to be highly automated, although careful manual supervision and intervention was required. All attestations of a text can now be found via a query, regardless of how the text citation appears in a particular article. As we pursue this process to its logical conclusion, we have begun to enter the full transliterations of specific texts. This enables us to explore the ways in which an electronic version will assist in the ongoing development of the Hittite dictionary.

Last year, work was also begun on the creation of a detailed grammatical or morphological taxonomy in OCHRE. This exercise has been completed and the results have been implemented into the *e*CHD, again with the help of electronic parsing utilities that allowed for a high degree of automation.

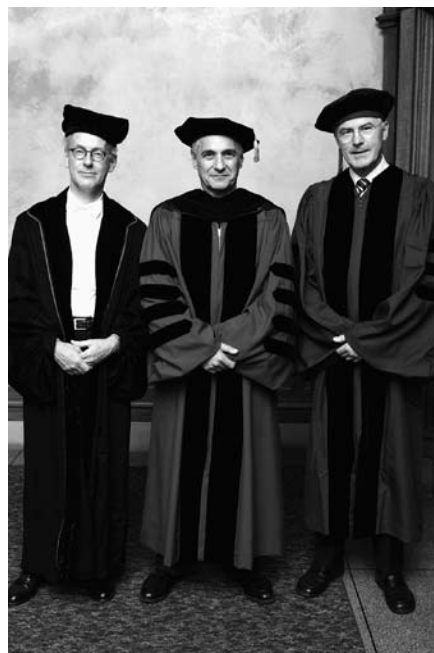
Sparse grammatical information that had meaning merely due to its context within the morphological analysis of the attested word forms is now fully realized and exposed to the user more explicitly. This allows for highly complex searches of grammatical forms that simply had not previously been possible. Work continues on refining the query mechanism within OCHRE to access this rich grammatical detail in meaningful ways.

We anticipate that in the coming year and a half, Volume Š will be added to the electronic version. Our accumulated experience working with Volumes L through P, and further use of the electronic utilities that we have developed, should enable this process to move forward smoothly.

We had a long and exciting list of guests this year. Both Dr. Susanne Görke from Mainz, Germany, and Willemijn Waal from Leiden, the Netherlands, came for several weeks to consult our files and to enjoy the tremendous wealth of our Research Archives. Gary Beckman, Professor of Hittite and Mesopotamian Studies at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor and outside consultant for the dictionary, stayed on for several days after the conference of the American Oriental Society here in Chicago to search our files for further fragments of the so-called *babili*-ritual, of which he is preparing an edition. And Craig Melchert, another one of our outside consultants and Professor of Indo-European Linguistics at the University of California, Los Angeles, gave a lecture (“The Rise of Hittite Literacy: A Third Way”) when he was here for the dissertation defense of one of our students, Ilya Yakubovich.

Our most distinguished guest came on September 21: Turkey’s Minister of Foreign Affairs, His Excellency Ali Babacan, to whom I handed a copy of the CHD. He showed himself very interested in our work and promptly mentioned it in the opening remarks of his lecture in Breasted Hall.

Another prominent guest was Gernot Wilhelm, Professor of Ancient Near Eastern Studies at the Julius-Maximilians-Universität in Würzburg, Germany, and another outside consultant of the CHD. The University conferred on him an honorary degree at its 494th Convocation on June 13 for his outstanding and groundbreaking work on Hurrian studies and for his work on Hittite.



*Honorary degree recipient Professor Gernot Wilhelm (right) with President Robert Zimmer (center) and Theo van den Hout. Photo by Dan Dry/UC*

## DIYALA PROJECT

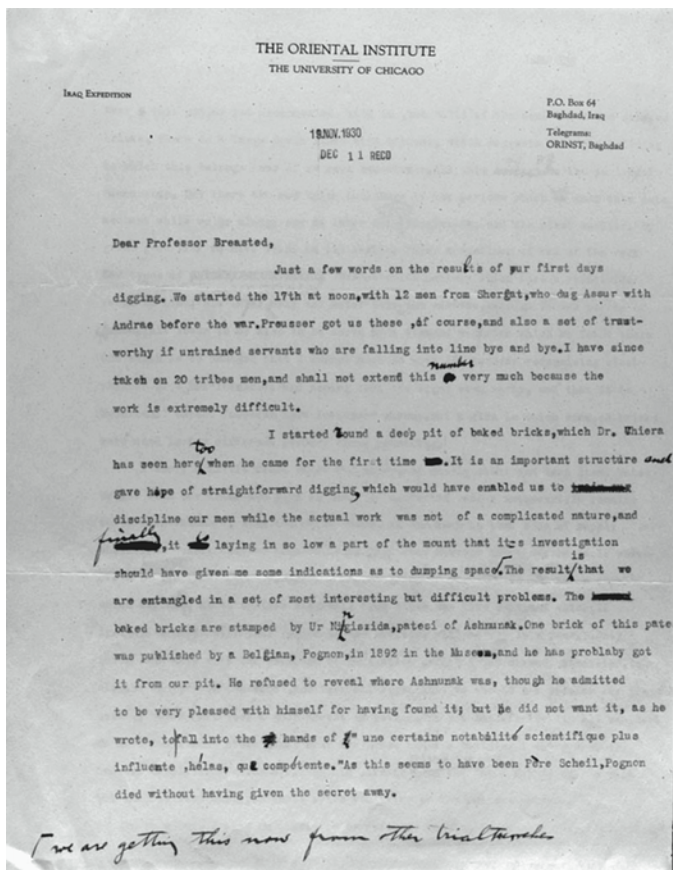
Clemens Reichel

The setup yet is a bit unfamiliar. “Set the F-Stop, shutter speed first. Now adjust the distance.” Ready — hold on! “Did you check the lighting? The lamps may be too low....”

We are in the storage area of the Museum Archives. Just where exactly we are with reference to the outside world I can't tell any more — we have passed too many security doors, turned right angles, and gone up one floor with an elevator. Just like Museum storage, the Archives constitute their own biosphere. Low humidity and a constant comfortable 68 degrees Fahrenheit. Comfortable for documents maybe, but I already feel the first shivers come over me — after all, it is summer and 85 degrees outside.... Karen Terras, my assistant, came better prepared — she brought a sweater. Just as well. She will be in here for hours more to come.

Another day of work for the Diyala Project. And yet, what we are doing is somewhat unfamiliar to all of us. Before us are large stacks of papers — letters, telegraphs, memos. Materials from the Director's Correspondence files. Some pages yellowed by age. A lot of them machine-

typed, others written in a careful hand, often beautiful enough to be framed. Right now, a large stack dating from 1930/1931 is in front of us. February 13, 1931: a letter from James Henry Breasted to Henri Frankfort, Director of the Diyala Expedition: “My Dear Frankfort, ....” A copy of an outgoing letter to the Iraq Expedition, carefully marked and stamped as such. Frankfort's reply — incredibly, written not much more than a week later (When did the mail service last work that well?) — shows up a few pages down: “Dear Prof. Breasted....” It is the sheer volume of mail that astonishes the most. Two, three, sometimes four letters per week sent each way. Frankfort's letter containing detailed descriptions of events on site, major finds made, visits by dignitaries. The Iraqi crown prince, the Director General of Antiquities, Max Mallowan and his wife Agatha Christie. The immediacy of the narrative, often relating events in progress with the outcome not yet certain, makes the events come alive. One can almost smell the dust of the site, the petroleum lamp under which these



FROM THE FIELD: Letter from Henri Frankfort to James Henry Breasted informing him about the first results of excavation work at Tell Asmar (December 1930)

letters were written. A sandstorm here, a workers' revolt there. Even a holdup, in which one of the excavation vehicles was shot at and pierced by bullets (though, thankfully, no one was injured). Replies by James Henry Breasted and his son Charles (who took care of much of the Institute's business while his father was away) are detailed, eloquent, occasionally admonishing the young Frankfort for his youthful enthusiasm. I cannot help comparing the pitiful semblances of a field correspondence from Hamoukar — usually consisting of two e-mails a month and rudimentary cell phone text messages — with this amazing hall of records.

I also can't help putting myself back in Frankfort's shoes, trying to imagine what the world of archaeology in Iraq was like in 1930, the year of the Diyala Expedition's first season, and what he hoped to achieve. To be fair, a lot already was known about ancient Mesopotamia by that time. After all, European and American museums had sent archaeological missions to Iraq for almost 100 years to dig (though sometimes the word "plow through" would be more appropriate) sites in search of artifacts that could be added to their collections. Tens of thousands of cuneiform texts re-told Mesopotamia's history in great detail, while monumental reliefs and sculpture as well as tiny cylinder seals bespoke the fine achievements of its craftsmanship. A lot was known about early Mesopotamia's legendary kings such as Naramsin of Akkad, but due to the large and often unsystematic nature of excavations, little was known about the associated material culture. What, for example, did pots and pans look like from which King Naramsin's subordinates ate? What did their houses look like and what were they made of? How did people grind their flour, prepare food, or make their garments? These and many other questions were on Breasted's mind when the Oriental Institute launched its Iraq Expedition in the late 1920s. Between 1930 and 1938, four sites — Tell Agrab, Tell Asmar, Ishchali, and Khafaje — in the Diyala Region northeast of



*SITE VISIT: James Henry Breasted (wearing hat) at Tell Asmar (ancient Eshnunna), 1932 or 1933. To his left is Henri Frankfort, to his right is Thorkild Jacobsen, field epigrapher and archaeologist*

## DIYALA PROJECT



*MASTER AND STUDENT: James Henry Breasted (standing) and Henri Frankfort in the cella of the Abu Temple at Tell Asmar (1932 or 1933)*

Baghdad were excavated, uncovering large temples and palaces, but also vast areas of private houses, manufacturing installations, and city fortifications dating between 3200 and 1800 B.C. This is the time that saw the rise of Mesopotamia's early cities, the emergence of writing and bureaucracy, and the formation of the first large territorial states — Mesopotamia's dawn of history.

Considering the scale of the accomplished archaeological work, it is unfortunate that the excavators ultimately fell short in its publication. While most of the architecture was published in five Oriental Institute Publications (OIP) volumes and four more volumes dedicated to key artifacts such as sculpture, cylinder seals, and pottery, some 15,000 artifacts remained unpublished. In addition to more sculpture, cylinder and stamp seals, these unfortunately included many of the tools that defined daily life for the majority of the people, such as pins, awls, grindstones and whetstones, hoes, and knives. The Diyala publications had contributed a lot to our knowledge of Mesopotamia's early history, but not to its full potential of all excavated materials. In 1992, McGuire Gibson launched the Diyala Project to complete the Oriental Institute's obligation of fully publishing this data. Though data was entered into a database to facilitate its analysis, the project's original name, "Diyala Miscellaneous Object Publication Project," reflected its anticipated outcome — a book publication of all remaining objects. Soon, however, our outlook changed — the number and variety of objects was too large for one book, and the number of available photographs, if used comprehensively, would have resulted in a prohibitively expensive multi-volume publication. Eventually we decided to disseminate the data over a Web-based database at no cost to the end user. This allowed us to include all available illustrations at no extra cost while retaining data searchability and sortability for the end user. Since 2002, George Sundell, the project's data architect, and I have been working on a multi-relational Oracle-based Diyala database. The



first step of this work, the creation of an object database, which was funded by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities between 2004 and 2006, took significantly longer than anticipated. Too many hurdles had to be overcome, and I cannot thank George enough for his willingness to dive into territories previously unfamiliar to him, such as Web design. I am pleased to report that the data migration to the University's NSIT server has just been completed successfully. There still remains a lot of work to do — data to be edited, descriptions adjusted — but the “point of no return” — so critical for any data publication on the Web — has passed.

During data entry and editing, however, we realized conceptual shortcomings in our data layout. Physical object descriptions could be verified if the object was available for inspection, but for its archaeological context we could not get past the field records of the excavators. This is where things got complicated: some descriptions of object proveniences were short and rudimentary, others were lengthy and detailed but unsystematic, and sometimes we have several, even contradictory, proveniences for the same object. We tried to standardize these descriptions as much as we could, but we cannot pretend to know the solution to all problems. In the end it became clear that we had to add the field records as left by the excavators to our database to give the end users the possibility of examining the data for themselves. This was the birth of step two of our project, the creation of a “Virtual Diyala Archive.” In this step we include all available archival materials — field notebooks, plans, object and locus cards, field registers — in the database. This was a gigantic undertaking, requiring the scanning and indexing of thousands of pages of material. Luckily, the NEH saw the importance of this step and in July 2007 awarded us a \$331,000 grant to complete our work. Having faced numerous obstacles during step one — the launch of the Diyala database itself — I am happy to report that step two has been moving along quite smoothly. Many field records have already been scanned and indexed, leaving the field plans and the correspondence files as two of the remaining major challenges. Alexandra Witsell, one of our student assistants, started the arduous task of scanning these oversized plans. So far she has scanned 260; at an average size of 300–400 megabytes per plan, these have added to the storage challenges that the Diyala Project has faced since its inception. We hope to complete the scanning of the plans by winter 2009. Nobody really could conceive of the scope of the other challenge, the sighting and incorporation of the letters from the Director's Correspondence files in the Oriental Institute Museum Archives. At present I still cannot put a figure on how much data there is, but the number of pages is literally in the thousands. Many of them are fragile, multi-page letters often are stapled together — in short, it became clear to us that, no matter how hard we tried, we could not scan all the relevant material in the time available to us. An idea came to

THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO		F.O. Box 64 Baghdad, Iraq Telegrams: ORINST, Baghdad
IRAQ EXPEDITION	December 27, 1930	
BUDGET ESTIMATE Season 1931 - 1932		
With living and working conditions as at present.		
Salaries	\$20,000.	
Travel	8,000.	
Labor	7,500.	
Household	6,000.	
Transport	4,500.	
Equipment (including Library)	1,000.	
Postage & Stationery	500.	
Guarding	1,500.	
Contingent	<u>3,000.</u>	
Total	\$54,000.	
Additional man at Khafaje	<u>2,500.</u>	
	\$56,500.	
(STATEMENT NO. 2)		

**BETTER TIMES:** Budget estimate by Henri Frankfort for work at Tell Asmar and Khafaje (\$56,000 in 1930 corresponds to about \$687,000 in 2008)

## DIYALA PROJECT

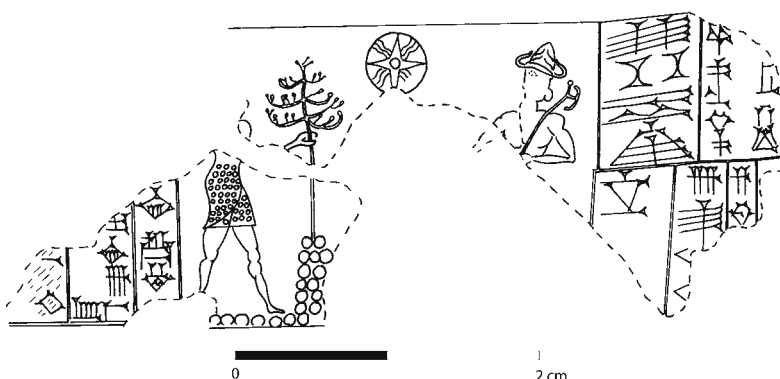
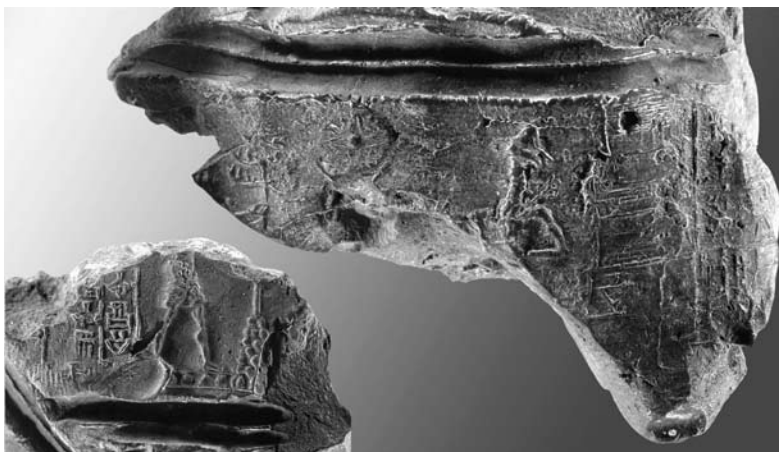
me last year when I needed copies of a large number of documents to prepare a lecture: instead of scanning them I simply photographed them, which took a fraction of the time. I never intended these photos to be more than record shots, but when I compared the quality of the photographs with that of the scans I could not see much difference. We did not take this decision lightly, but in the end, old-fashioned photography won out over scanning. That is, if you call a top-end (12 megapixel) digital SLR (single lens reflex) camera with macro lens and a professional copy stand with color-neutral halogen lamps specifically made for document reproduction “old fashioned.” Seeing the stand with camera put together was an awesome experience, but it was topped by the quality of the photographs. As I zoomed in to the paper matrix of one of the letters with no loss of sharpness, I realized that we had taken the right decision. The overall organization of this sub-project fell into the hands of Karen Terras, previously one of our project volunteers whom I had hired as project coordinator in October 2007. Using a digital SLR is a lot more difficult than using a point-and-shoot camera, but soon Karen had (re-)familiarized herself with the benchmarks of manual photography. Since June she has been joined by student assistant Mike Fisher in taking photographs.

It is difficult to not get lost in the correspondence files. In reading through them, the skeleton of the Diyala excavation’s history is fleshing out. Little did I know that Frankfort’s original intent had not been to work in the Diyala region, but to seek a joint project with the German team at Uruk/Warka. To us younger scholars, Frankfort’s intellectual legacy has elevated him to a quasi-divine status. His letters, however, show all too clearly that in 1930, this 33-year-old future director of the Diyala Expedition still had a lot to learn. Following his arrival in Baghdad he initially bought a large number of antiquities from dealers there, still a legal endeavor in Iraq in those days. Breasted’s impatience with Frankfort’s careless squander of money becomes increasingly apparent in letters and telegrams, culminating in a lecture to young Frankfort in a letter dated April 9, 1930:

“... if the dealers in Baghdad are convinced that we will go on paying high prices for things from our own mounds, this impression on their part will act as a decided stimulus to continue plundering these mounds even after we have taken charge of them. We thus start a vicious circle, which we have no means of stopping except by refusing to pay. I appreciate your interest in our collections, but I think that at this point we shall have to call a halt and, as indicated in one of my earlier letters, throw all our funds into the fieldwork.

One cannot but admire Breasted’s foresight and academic sincerity by putting archaeological work over the acquisition of prestigious objects for the Oriental Institute Museum. Seventy-eight years later his words ring painfully true to those of us who have dealt with the aftermath of the 2003 Iraq War, the vandalizing of the Iraq National Museum and the looting of Iraq’s major archaeological sites. Fortunately, Frankfort’s own publication record shows that this lesson eventually sunk in with him. His *Stratified Cylinder Seals from the Diyala Region*, published in 1955 (OIP 72), which presents the Diyala cylinder seals sorted by archaeological provenience, remains a visionary book that must have taken seal experts — so used to cataloging seals by style, not by level and locus — by surprise.

Much work remains to be done, but at the present pace I am hopeful that the complete Diyala Archive will be available online in the next two years. Following my own dissertation research, I am pleased to report that our own student assistants have started using the Diyala material for their own work to show its continued potential for research. Since 2006 Alexandra Witsell has been working on her dissertation on the socio-economic role of Early Dynastic temples in the Diyala



**HIDDEN TREASURES:** Two clay sealings with impressions of the seal of Usurawassu, city ruler of Eshnunna (Tell Asmar) around 1980 B.C. Though post-Ur III period in date, its style betrays strong influences from the Akkadian period (ca. 2300–2150 B.C.). Below: composite reconstruction

region. Mike Fisher has started to work on the seals and sealings from the Northern Palace at Tell Asmar. My own work on the Ur III, Isin-Larsa, and Old Babylonian sealings from the Palace of the Rulers at Eshnunna, having experienced much delay due to over-commitment elsewhere, has regained momentum; since 2007 Angela Altenhofen has worked as the project's illustrator and has created dozens of composite drawings of these seal impressions.

The bad news about a Web-based publication is that it never will be finished. The good news about a Web-based publication is that it never *has* to be finished. As both technology and our own knowledge of the subject increase, as comments from scholars worldwide give us feedback on our work, I am confident that many things will change and be improved upon. Having created a Web-based database, we hope to provide a template for future online projects, not only at the Oriental Institute but elsewhere as well. Archaeological data not only is lost by site destruction but also by non-publication. It is my hope that the Diyala Database will ensure that the great achievements of pioneering archaeologists such as Henri Frankfort will never be forgotten.

## EPIGRAPHIC SURVEY

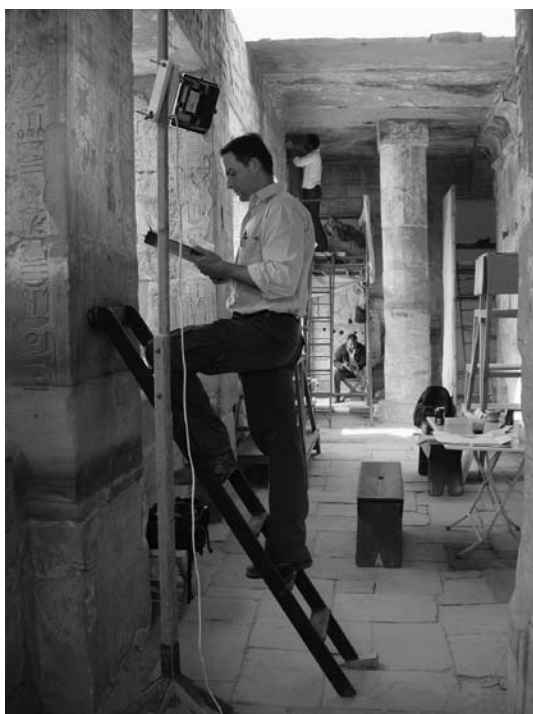
W. Raymond Johnson

On April 19, 2008, the Epigraphic Survey, in cooperation with the Egyptian Supreme Council of Antiquities, completed its eighty-fourth six-month field season in Luxor. Changing climate, record numbers of tourists, agricultural expansion, and a city in the throes of urban renewal continued to challenge the archaeological community, but it was a most productive season nonetheless. What follows is a report on Chicago House's activities in Luxor, primarily at the sites of the Medinet Habu temple complex and Luxor Temple, during the 2007–2008 field season.

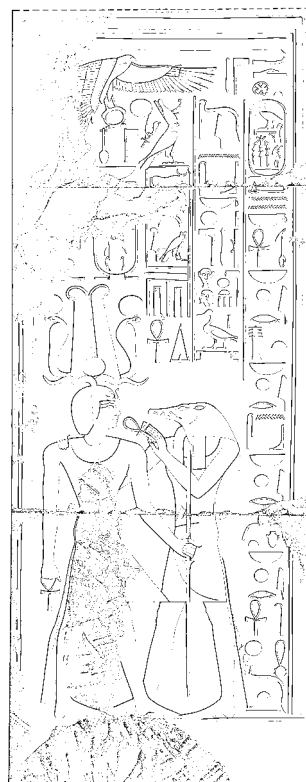
### MEDINET HABU

#### Epigraphic Documentation

Epigraphic work in the small Amun temple of Hatshepsut and Thutmose III at Medinet Habu (specifically in the bark sanctuary, ambulatory, and Kushite porch) continued under the watchful eye of senior epigrapher Brett McClain (fig. 1), who was assisted by epigraphers Jen Kimpton, Ginger Emery, and Christian Greco, and artists Margaret De Jong, Susan Osgood, and Krisztián Vértés. A special focus this season continued to be the Twenty-ninth Dynasty Akoris-period elements in the ambulatory, including four pillars appropriated from the Twenty-fifth Dynasty God's Wives chapels across the way to the south, reused to support the sagging roof of the ambulatory and reinscribed for Akoris; an inscribed doorway; and an inscribed window blocking. All these elements appear to date from the first major restoration of the temple and date to Akoris's reign.



*Figure 1. Brett (on ladder) and Christian collating in the ambulatory of the small Amun temple. Photo by Ray Johnson*



*Figure 2. Thutmose III greeted by Sobek, east pillar face from the ambulatory of the small Amun temple. Drawing by Margaret De Jong and Tina Di Cerbo*

Another focus continued to be on the multiple periods of painted decoration found on some carved reliefs in the Eighteenth Dynasty temple, due to its long history and periodic repainting. Because the overpainting in most cases does not match the original painting program (and the palette of colors is also quite different), a new drawing convention has been created to differentiate the phases (quite successfully, thanks to artist Krisztián Vértés who proposed the new convention which involves varying densities of stippling). Photographer Yarko Kobylecky did large-format photography of the Twenty-first Dynasty Pinudjem marginal inscription that wraps around the Eighteenth Dynasty temple for drawing enlargements (fig. 3), after which artists Krisztián and Margaret started the facsimile drawing of this rare and paleographically beautiful text for *Medinet Habu X*. In January and March, Photo Archivist Sue Lezon worked with Brett on the digitally joined photographic (color and black and white) and facsimile drawing plate sections for *Medinet Habu IX*, *The Small Amun Temple, Part 1: The Inner Sanctuaries*, a process that is now finished.

What follows is a breakdown of drawings penciled, inked, and collated this season (fig. 4):

Penciling completed: 11

Inking completed: 29

Collation completed: 6

Supplementary Collation completed: 5

Transfer Check completed: 5

Director Check completed: 13 (see fig. 2 for an example)

Supplementary Collation – Director Check completed: 3



**Figure 3.** Photographer Yarko Kobylecky documenting the Pinudjem inscription, small Amun temple. Photo by Ray Johnson



**Figure 4.** Ray and Ginger collating a facade drawing. Photo by Margaret De Jong

## EPIGRAPHIC SURVEY

It is appropriate to mention that senior epigrapher Brett McClain and epigrapher Christian Greco both received their Ph.D.s within the last year, Brett in October 2007 from the University of Chicago (with honors), and Christian this past June from the University of Pisa, Italy (also with honors). By the time this report is published, epigrapher Jen Kimpton will also have received her Ph.D. from Johns Hopkins University. It is a testament to the fortitude and abilities of these remarkable young Egyptologists that they could all juggle full-time epigraphy in the field and still work on their dissertations, and by doing so they continue a long tradition of Epigraphic Survey scholars. Their dedication and expertise allows the Epigraphic Survey to uphold the high standards of its preservation work in Luxor for which it is famous, and to continually raise those standards. The Epigraphic Survey is proud to recognize their achievements here and looks forward to many years of fruitful epigraphic collaboration to come.

### The Medinet Habu Graffiti Project

Tina Di Cerbo, assisted in January by her husband Richard Jasnow, continued the systematic documentation of all the graffiti in the Medinet Habu precinct. They are presently working on the roof of the Ramesses III mortuary temple, second court, and its adjacent pylon, digitally recording, through drawings and photographs, all the pharaonic and post-pharaonic graffiti, block by block. Each block is keyed into a master plan showing the architectural context.

### Conservation and Restoration

The conservation team headed by Lotfi Hassan (including Adel Azziz Andraus, Nahed Samir Andraus, and four Egyptian conservation students) and master mason Frank Helmholz's stone restoration team worked together to consolidate and patch the back exterior foundation stones of the small Amun temple sanctuary, decaying rapidly the last few years due to increased groundwater salts. In consultation with the Supreme Council of Antiquities (SCA), decayed stone was carefully removed and eighteen patch stones were cut from new sandstone (quarried from the Gebel Silsileh quarries) and inserted into the original stone matrix, supplementing the lime-mortar infilling in less decayed sections (fig. 5). The surface of the stone was then roughened in a manner that imitates the surface texture of the original blocks. The conservators also cleaned the ceiling of the back central sanctuary and king's chamber; test cleaned a section of painted reliefs in the interior, southwestern corner of the ambulatory; and cleaned and consolidated (with Frank, who inserted a patch stone) the western end of the bark sanctuary, southern side. Lotfi's workmen also put up ropes delineating and protecting the small Amun temple precinct and sacred lake area and spread clean white gravel — donated by the Gurna SCA inspectorate — around the small Amun temple complex as part of the site management landscaping.



*Figure 5. Conservator Hala consolidating back wall of the small Amun temple. Photo by Ray Johnson*



*Figure 6. From left to right: Nehal, Hamada, Lotfi, and Mohamed conserving a block from the Ramesses III well. Photo by Ray Johnson*



*Figure 7. The southern well being consolidated by conservators Mohamed and Nehal. Photo by Ray Johnson*

### **The Southern Well of Ramesses III**

At the collapsing southern well of Ramesses III, Frank and his workmen carefully dismantled and moved two more courses of stone (two long blocks, each broken in two) from the eastern wall of the well, whose foundation has dissolved due to groundwater salts, causing the upper wall and roof to break and subside (the roof blocks and first wall courses were removed last season). Lotfi and his team, including the four Egyptian conservation students (figs. 6–7), consolidated the broken stone surface before and after removal, and — with Frank — will piece the blocks together starting next season. In situ carved reliefs within the well of Nile gods bringing sacred water up from the well depths, covered with a centimeter-thick crust of salt, were cleaned and consolidated. Three large collapsed blocks from the entryway corridor were moved onto protected ground for restoration. In April, the entire area was covered and secured for the summer months.

### **The New Medinet Habu Blockyard Storage Facility**

Frank and the workmen also finished construction of fourteen damp-coursed cinderblock platforms (16 m long each) in the new Medinet Habu blockyard and completed its brick perimeter wall (40.0 × 15.5 m) against the inside southern Ramesses III brick enclosure wall, a major milestone in our Medinet Habu program (fig. 8). Inventorying and transfer of the old blockyard to the new one will begin in October 2008. A preliminary phase of the work started this season. The inventorying and documentation (on a new database) of all of the miscellaneous fragmentary architectural and sculpture fragments presently scattered around the precinct was started by new staff member Julia Schmied. All this material will be moved to the new blockyard starting next season.

## **LUXOR TEMPLE**

### **The Luxor Temple Blockyard**

Thanks to a new three-year grant from the World Monuments Fund (a Robert W. Wilson Challenge to Conserve Our Heritage matching grant), the Epigraphic Survey began the expansion of its program in the Luxor Temple blockyards to include an educational component for visitors and scholars. In addition to her normal supervision of the Luxor Temple blockyard conservation program, conservator Hiroko Kariya started laying the groundwork for an open-air museum in the eastern blockyard area that will run the length of the southern half of the temple on the east.

## EPIGRAPHIC SURVEY



**Figure 8. New Medinet Habu blockyard under construction. Photo by Ray Johnson**

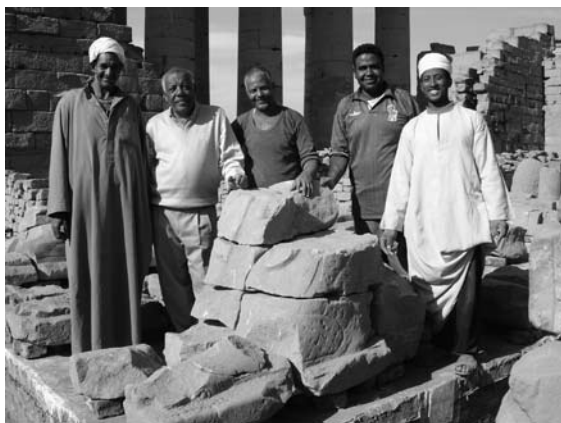
Fragment groups for chronological display and educational signage that will accompany the assemblages were selected and planned by Ray, Hiroko, and blockyard registrar Nan Ray. Tina Di Cerbo cleaned the entire eastern area with our workmen and prepared a prototype section of sandstone pavement and protective steel post-and-chain fencing that was put in place to the east of the Luxor Temple sanctuary for its entire length, where it was reviewed and approved by the SCA. The path now directs visitors along platforms that support large blocks from Amenhotep III's sanctuary walls in that area, dismantled during modifications undertaken to the temple during the reign of the Roman emperor Diocletian in the late third

century A.D. The stone paving runs a meter from the edge of the display platforms to keep people from touching the assembled wall reliefs; the space between the platform and stone pavement is filled with gravel (fig. 9). The next two seasons will see the installation of additional sandstone paving and protective chain fencing along the entire length of the Amenhotep III solar court on the east, where visitors and tour groups will be directed when they pass out of the Luxor Temple sanctuary. As they walk along the path they will see dozens of reassembled fragment groups, blocks, and even sculpture (including sphinxes) arranged chronologically. At the north end of the path they will be directed back into the court where they will progress out of the temple via the Colonnade Hall, but not before they have passed a display explaining the conservation work and why it is necessary. The open-air museum is projected to be completed in 2010 and will mark another milestone in the history of the Epigraphic Survey at Luxor Temple.



**Figure 9. Open-air museum, southern walkway, Luxor Temple blockyard. Photo by Ray Johnson**





*Figure 10. Nectanebo I sphinx assembly crew.  
Photo by Ray Johnson*

was begun this season, and reassembly of sixteen sphinxes from this group was started on the three new large platforms (starting with the paws). Thanks to the assistance of Margie Fisher, who joined us for several weeks in November and started a catalog of the material, the analysis of additional blocks from the time of Nectanebo II found in the same foundation was started this season. These blocks were identified, collected, and placed on two of the new platforms and will be partly reassembled on display platforms next season.

### **The Roman Vestibule**

In the painted Roman Vestibule, photographer Yarko Kobylecky finished the complete documentation in digital and large-format black-and-white and color film of the entire southern wall and apse. The cleaning of the frescos in this area, including the apse with four male figures and Roman eagle above with outstretched wings, was finished this past December by the American Research Center in Egypt and Chicago House with Egyptian Antiquities Conservation Project/USAID funding. The project was directed by Michael Jones of ARCE; conservators Luigi Di Caesaris, Alberto Sucato, and Maria Cristina Tomassetti supervised the on-site work (fig. 11). Scaffolding for the cleaning and photography was provided by Chicago House and set up by Frank Helmholz and the Chicago House workmen. Tina Di Cerbo coordinated the construction of specially shaped wooden scaffolding for the interior of the semicircular apse. The figures in the apse were mutilated in antiquity but appear to represent the rulers of the Tetrachy (or rule by four) established by Emperor Diocletian in the late third

Hiroko and Tina also supervised the construction of 70 m of small-fragment storage shelving along the inside of the eastern block-yard perimeter wall and oversaw the creation of eight new damp-coursed storage mastaba/platforms for fragmentary material recovered in previous seasons from the eastern garden and eastern Roman gate area. Three large 6 × 6 m square platforms were designed specifically for the restoration of sphinxes of Nectanebo I from the Karnak/Luxor sphinx road (fig. 10). These had been quarried in the medieval period, broken up into several hundred pieces, and reused in a foundation that reinforced the north bastion of the eastern Roman gate. Analysis of the sphinx material



*Figure 11. Italian conservators cleaning the southern wall, Roman Vestibule.  
Photo by Ray Johnson*

## EPIGRAPHIC SURVEY

century A.D.: the two emperors of the east and west, Diocletian and Maximian (in the center of the apse), flanked by their seconds in command/successors (referred to as Caesars) Galerius and Constantius. The toga-clad bodies of three of the figures, despite the damage, are well preserved, particularly the sandaled feet, but the faces have been carefully hammered away, probably in the Christian period, leaving holes in the plaster (although their yellow halos/nimbi indicating their divinity are untouched) (fig. 12). Cleaning showed that one figure in the center right had been completely erased in antiquity and was probably the figure representing Maximian, with whose family Constantius later had problems. This figure represents a late Roman *damnatio memoriae* eerily reminiscent of the much earlier fate of Amun in the same chamber at the hands of Akhenaten's agents. Perhaps even more representative is a figure of Jupiter originally painted between and behind the two Emperors in the center of the apse, completely hacked away except for the tips of two leaves from his laurel crown. On-site discussions between ARCE, Chicago House, and the SCA were held this spring to determine the best way to protect the cleaned frescos with roofing for that part of the temple.



Figure 12. Detail of cleaned apse with Roman emperors. Photo by Yarko Kobylecky

### Medieval Foundation Condition Study

Up until the last century, the city of Luxor came right up to (and in some places partly covered) the walls of Luxor Temple. By 1960 all the later buildings around the temple had been cleared away to expose it to public and scholarly view. The blockyards around the temple are filled with inscribed pharaonic blocks and fragments that were found in the foundations of these buildings and saved for study. In February and March, conservators Hiroko Kariya and Sylvia Schweri



*Figure 13. Sylvia Schweri cleaning the west medieval foundation. Photo by Ray Johnson*

conducted a condition survey of two of the few surviving medieval foundations in the precinct, a church foundation to the west of the Colonnade Hall, and another to the north of the eastern Luxor Temple pylon tower. Both foundations are constructed of reused pharaonic sandstone blocks (many quarried from Karnak), some of which are suffering increasing decay from groundwater salts. The conservators mapped every stone in the foundations and condition-surveyed each one, while Yarko photographed the foundation context as well as individual stones. While total dismantling, conservation, and reassembly either in the old or new stone was considered, the conservators recommended that instead we very carefully map and plan every stone and architectural detail in the structures, spot treat decaying individual stones in situ where possible, and preserve the foundations intact (fig. 13). As part of an ongoing collaboration with Chicago House on conservation projects in Luxor Temple, ARCE will sponsor an architectural study and intensive mapping project on the two foundations in the coming year.

### **Luxor Temple Structural Condition Study**

Structural Engineer Conor Power, P.E., joined us from February 20 to 25 and continued his ongoing condition study and monitoring of the Luxor Temple structure. This was particularly important this season as it was the first year after the implementation of the Luxor and Karnak dewatering program that has lowered the groundwater almost ten feet since November 2007. The SCA and ARCE (under project director Fraser Parsons) are monitoring the two temple complexes as well, and Conor, who has worked with ARCE and USAID on other projects in the past, coordinated his study with theirs. No significant movement or change of the temple structure was noted. Conor reported a decrease in dampness in the Colonnade Hall columns which may be a result of the dewatering program, although he says that it is too early to tell.

## **CHICAGO HOUSE**

### **The Chicago House Library**

The Chicago House Library opened on October 29, 2007, and closed on April 11, 2008, and was the center of lots of activity this season; we had 1,018 library patrons, up 130 (14.6%) from the previous season. This was in part due to the many training programs that were happening in Luxor this season. Orientations and use of the Chicago House Library were an integral part of ARCE-sponsored SCA training programs in conservation and dewatering monitoring, as well as the salvage archaeological field school (which focused on the sphinx road just to the north of Luxor Temple) and ARCE/SCA site management training program. Librarian Marie Bryan, assisted by Anait Helmholz (with occasional kind assistance by Julia Schmied and Ellie Smith), performed graciously under fire and kept the facility running smoothly even when there was standing room only. Library hours are now Monday through Friday, 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., with a one-hour break for lunch at noon, and we continue to invite colleagues and patrons to join us for lunch in the residence courtyard on Fridays. In addition to tending to our library users, Marie accessioned 206 items to the library collection, of which 105 were monographs/books, 78 were journals and

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23 were series volumes (52 of these items were gifts). Our CD publication collection grew by 32, and 98 volumes were repaired (mainly by Anait) during the season. New archival flat map files arrived in April, and maps have now been inventoried and assigned to the appropriate drawers. A small collection of books from Dr. Henri Riad's library, which will form the Dr. Henri Memorial Library, were processed and cataloged, and some bound, for installation in a special section of the Chicago House Library alcove where Henri did most of his work. Basic catalog cards have been prepared and are filed in a separate file drawer. Sue Osgood is preparing a special bookplate for the collection. Special thanks must go to Foy Scalf for his help tracking down references not available to us in Luxor.

### Photo Archives

Photo Archives registrar Ellie Smith registered 257 large-format negatives this season and another 734 small-format 35 mm negatives. She assisted Yarko at Luxor Temple photographing the Roman Vestibule and medieval church foundations. She, Sue Lezon, and Tina coordinated our scanning program of the archives in conjunction with the Franco-Egyptian Center at Karnak (with thanks once again to Karnak Center Director Emmanuel Laroze), funded in part by an ARCE-AEF grant that has now expired. I would like to take this opportunity to thank ARCE and AEF for this invaluable support, which has allowed us to upgrade, back up, and make even more accessible the holdings of our archives, including individual archives such as Habachi and Jacquets, which is beneficial to everyone. Tina also prepared reference photographs of Khonsu Temple for ARCE's conservation program, whose team has started cleaning many of the painted wall reliefs there. Photo Archivist Sue Lezon spent the majority of her time at Chicago House working on finalizing images for *Medinet Habu IX*. She also prepared a DVD of reference images of Luxor Temple for Michael Jones for his use in the Luxor Roman Wall Painting Project. The images came from the Chicago House archive, the Special Collection, the Habachi archive, and our historic print collection, and we are particularly pleased to have all these collections utilized. Alain and Emmanuelle Arnaudès continued their Digital Archive Project for Chicago House, a digital archive database of all the documentation generated by Chicago House in Luxor, site by site, utilizing Fourth Dimension Software to make the data accessible to all scholars. They were assisted by Egyptian architect Louis Elia Louis, who continued the arduous process of redrawing all of Harold Nelson's key plans of the Luxor monuments in AutoCAD to enhance their usefulness in this and all other databases. This season Alain and Brett McClain began designing the means to integrate the Chicago House dictionary cards into the digital program, a resource that up until now is accessible only to scholars working at Chicago House. Christian and Julia started scanning the cards this season (over 2,500 out of a projected total of 36,000–40,000 cards), and the scanned data will be systematically entered into a custom-designed FileMaker database designed by Alain, starting this summer; scanning and data entry of the cards will continue next year under Julia's supervision. The Dictionary Project's ultimate goal is to create a comprehensive, publishable lexical reference of all the texts in Ramesses III's mortuary temple, and to provide a template for dictionaries of all the monuments published by the Epigraphic Survey. The Medinet Habu Dictionary will be worked on by the Epigraphic Survey staff primarily during the summer months when the Survey is not in the field. Digital scanning of the cards allows the data to leave the facility, since the cards must remain there.

Finance manager Safi Ouri and administrator Samir El-Guindy continued to provide the financial and administrative expertise that supports our documentation, conservation, and restoration work. I am pleased to announce that — in large part due to Safi's efforts and abilities — Chicago

House is the happy recipient of a five-year extension of our USAID grant, which has covered much of our annual operating expenses in Egypt the last few years. This funding will allow us to continue our expanded programs with no interruption, for which we are tremendously grateful, to both USAID and Safi.

Helen and Jean Jacquet joined us for a short season in the spring this year and continued to work on their publications and consult with us on ours. Helen celebrated her ninetieth birthday with us, a very special occasion indeed! Assistant to the Director Carlotta Maher joined us for a few golden weeks in March, again just in time to help us host the Oriental Institute's tour to Egypt, led by Robert Ritner and accompanied by Sarah Sapperstein. Special thanks must go to Tina Di Cerbo for opening and closing the Chicago House facility before and after our season, and doing all the maintenance work necessary so that the staff need not be inconvenienced during the season. Thank you, Tina.

In November we were very pleased to welcome back to Luxor former ARCE director and dear friend Mark Easton, who joined us for a few days for a review of the many conservation projects inaugurated during his watch. It was a special joy to see him, especially after the sadness of losing our friend, Egyptian Antiquities Project Director Chip Vincent, who succumbed to leukemia this past summer. Chip's voice, level head, and gentle humor are sorely missed in the Two Lands these days.

Many Oriental Institute friends passed through our halls during the season. Among them Tom and Linda Heagy came through during the holidays with their friends and family, as did Lewis and Misty Gruber with their friends. Our colleague and Epigraphic Survey staff member Margie Fisher came by in January with a group of friends and family (including brother Phillip and his wife Lauren), at which time we took the occasion to unveil the two plaques commemorating the naming of the Chicago House Library by the University of Chicago "The Marjorie M. Fisher Library, Chicago House, Luxor" in recognition of her long-standing support of the work of the Epigraphic Survey and the Oriental Institute (fig. 14). The bronze plaques are mounted on either side of the library entrance, one in English and the other in Arabic, and were designed by former Chicago House artist, now architect, Jay Heidel. Congratulations and heartfelt thanks to Margie on this momentous occasion. I am also very pleased to announce that the friends who



*Figure 14. Marjorie M. Fisher Library dedication. Photo by Yarko Kobylecky*

## EPIGRAPHIC SURVEY

accompanied the Heagys on their tour to Egypt have made a major donation toward the naming of “The Tom and Linda Heagy Photographic Archives, Chicago House, Luxor.” Most sincere thanks and congratulations to all!

Our efforts to adjust to the rapidly changing urban (and ancient) landscape of Luxor continued this season in a number of ways. Our documentation program was expanded to include additional parts of Luxor slated for change. Yarko Kobylecky and Sue Lezon continued reference photography on the west bank in the vanished or rapidly vanishing communities of Dra Abu El Naga southward through Gurna and Gurnet Murai. The area to the south of Luxor Temple from the Luxor Hotel (scheduled to be totally renovated) southward to the Marhaba shopping center and the New Winter Palace (both scheduled for demolition this summer) were photographed. The police station and mosque in front of Luxor Temple, which we photographed last season, are coming down this summer; the police station is already largely gone. The changes are happening almost faster than we can document them, but this documentation is now a part of our program. Thus far the development has occurred all around us, but now some of the proposed changes are coming a little closer to home. In April, we were informed by the city that one of the next phases in its urban renewal program, a Corniche-widening project, might negatively impact the Chicago House front garden, a thought too horrible to contemplate. At this writing, and after long conversations with the Luxor authorities, it is more likely that the city will widen the Corniche toward the west, toward the Nile and away from us and our neighbors. Keep your fingers crossed.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Epigraphic Survey professional staff this season, besides the director, consisted of J. Brett McClain as senior epigrapher, Jen Kimpton, Christina Di Cerbo, Ginger Emery, and Christian Greco as epigraphers; Margaret De Jong, Susan Osgood, and Krisztián Vértés as artists; Julia Schmied as archives assistant; Yarko Kobylecky as staff photographer; Susan Lezon as photo archivist and photographer; Elinor Smith as photo archives registrar and photography assistant; Carlotta Maher as assistant to the director; Safinaz Ouri as finance manager; Samir El-Guindy as administrator; Marie Bryan as librarian; Anait Helmholz as assistant librarian; Frank Helmholz as master mason; Lotfi K. Hassan, conservation supervisor; Adel Azziz Andraus; Nahed Samir Andraus; Mohamed Abou El Makarem; Hala Aly Handaqa; Nehal Mahmoud Yassin; and Asmaa Mohamed El Badry at Medinet Habu; and Hiroko Kariya, conservation supervisor; and Sylvia Schweri at Luxor Temple. Nan Ray worked on as Hiroko’s assistant in the Luxor Temple blockyard; Alain and Emmanuelle Arnaudières continued to develop the new Chicago House Digital Archives database; Louis Elia Louis Hanna worked as database architect; Conor Power worked as structural engineer; Helen Jacquet-Gordon and Jean Jacquet continued to consult with us in the library and photo archives; and Girgis Samwell worked with us as chief engineer.

To the Egyptian Supreme Council of Antiquities we owe special thanks for another productive collaboration this season: especially to Dr. Zahi Hawass, Secretary General of the SCA and Undersecretary of State; Mr. Magdy El-Ghandour, General Director of Foreign Missions; Dr. Sabry Abdel Aziz, General Director of Antiquities for Upper and Lower Egypt; Dr. Mansour Boraik, General Director of Luxor; Dr. Ali Asfar, General Director for the West Bank of Luxor; Dr. Mohamed Assem, Deputy Director of Luxor; Mr. Ibrahim Suleiman, Director of Karnak and Luxor Temples; Mr. Sultan, Director of Luxor Temple; and Mme. Sanaa, Director of the Luxor Museum. Special thanks must go to our inspectors this season, at Luxor Temple: Mr. Yehia Abd El Latif Abd El Raheem (Oct. 20–Dec. 24, 2007), Mr. Gamal Mohamed Mostafa Husein (Dec. 25, 2007–Feb. 25, 2008), and Mme. Hana Morxy Al-Desoky (Feb. 26–April 19); and at Medinet



*Chicago House staff, 2007/2008*

Habu temple: Mr. Yehia Abdel Alim Abdalla (Oct. 20–Dec. 24, 2007); Mme. Nafessa El Azab Mohamed Ahmed (Dec. 25, 2007–Feb. 25, 2008); and Abdel Rahman Ibrahim El Nagar (Feb. 26–April 19), to whom we extend our sincerest thanks.

It is my great pleasure to acknowledge the many friends of the Oriental Institute whose support allows us to maintain — and expand — our preservation work in Luxor. Special thanks must go to the American Ambassador to Egypt, Margaret Scobey; former American Ambassador to Egypt, the Honorable Frank Ricciardone and Dr. Marie Ricciardone; former Ambassador to Egypt (now Undersecretary of State for the Middle East) the Honorable David Welch; Haynes Mahoney and Helen Lovejoy, Cultural Affairs Office of the U.S. Embassy; Hilda (Bambi) Arellano, director of the United States Agency for International Development in Egypt; Ken Ellis, former director of the USAID Egypt; Mr. Shafik Gabr, ARTOC Group, Cairo; Ahmed Ezz, EZZ Group, Cairo; David and Carlotta Maher; David and Nan Ray; Mark Rudkin; Dr. Barbara Mertz; Daniel Lindley and Lucia Woods Lindley; Dr. Marjorie M. Fisher; Eric and Andrea Colombel; Piers Litherland; Dr. Fred Giles; Tom Van Eynde; Marjorie B. Kiewit; Nancy N. Lassalle; Tom and Linda Heagy; Misty and Lewis Gruber; Judge and Mrs. Warren Siegel; Barbara Breasted Whitesides and George Whitesides; Miriam Reitz Baer; Mary Grimshaw; Andrea Dudek; Khalil and Beth Noujaim; James Lichtenstein; Jack Josephson and Magda Saleh; The Secchia Family; Roger and Jane Hildebrand; Douglas and Nancy Abbey; Kenneth and Theresa Williams; Thad and Diana Rasche; Louise Grunwald; Lowri Lee Sprung; Andrew Nourse and Patty Hardy, Kate Pitcairn; Lauren and Phillip W. M. Fisher (in honor of Margie Fisher); Drs. Francis and Lorna Straus; Donald Oster;

## EPIGRAPHIC SURVEY

Patrick and Shirley Ryan; Dr. William Kelly Simpson; Dr. Ben Harer; Dr. Roxie Walker; Tony and Lawrie Dean; David and Elizabeth Weislogel, James and Ann Nicholson, David and Marilyn Vitale, and Robert J. Moore (in honor of Tom and Linda Heagy); Mr. Charles L. Michod, Jr., and the Nuveen Benevolent Trust; Orpheus J. and Angeline Sopranos; Ken and Linda Ostrand; Stewart White; Prince Abbas Hilmi; The Brian and Alice Hyman Foundation; Gail Adele; Ann and Tony Syrett; Dr. Gerry Scott, Kathleen Scott, Mary Sadek, Amir Abdel Hamid, and Amira Khattab of the American Research Center in Egypt; Dr. Jarek Dobrolowski and Janie Azziz of the Egyptian Antiquities Project; Dr. Michael Jones of the Egyptian Antiquities Conservation Project; and all our friends and colleagues at the Oriental Institute. I must also express special gratitude to British Petroleum, the Getty Grant Program of the J. Paul Getty Trust, Mobil Exxon, Coca-Cola Egypt (Atlantic Industries), Vodafone Egypt, and the World Monuments Fund (and especially Robert Wilson) for their invaluable support of our work. Thank you all!

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## GIZA PLATEAU MAPPING PROJECT 2006–2007 SEASON

Mark Lehner

The Giza Plateau Mapping Project carried out fieldwork at the Giza Pyramids in Egypt from September 2006 to June 2007. During this period we conducted two sessions of our field school for SCA inspectors: the Advanced Field School from October 7 to December 15 and a Beginners Field School from February 10 to April 4, 2007. We carried out our regular excavations from September 1 to December 15, resumed fieldwork on January 27, 2007, and continued until April 12, 2007, with laboratory work going on until June 7, 2007. Our excavations focused on two Pyramid Age settlements: the Khentkawes Town and the extensive Workers' Settlement on the low desert, referred to as Area A and also Heit el-Ghurob (a name used by the local residents). This site has been the main focus of our work since 1988.

### The Khentkawes Town (KKT)

Between late January and early April 2007, Lisa Yeomans, with Pieter Collet, supervised work in the KKT, the town, 300 m west of our Area A site, attached to the gigantic tomb of Khentkawes, an enigmatic queen who ruled at the end of the Fourth Dynasty (see Lehner 2006). Altogether Yeomans and Collet cleared, mapped, and assigned feature numbers over an area about 35 × 55 m. North of our 2005 work, the area spans the causeway leading to the Khentkawes tomb and includes the remains of three buildings in the eastern end of the “leg” of the town and a portion of two buildings in the “foot” (fig. 1).

Unfortunately, the mudbrick walls over most of this area were scoured down to the lowest traces or eroded away completely to expose underlying limestone bedrock or quarry debris. Much

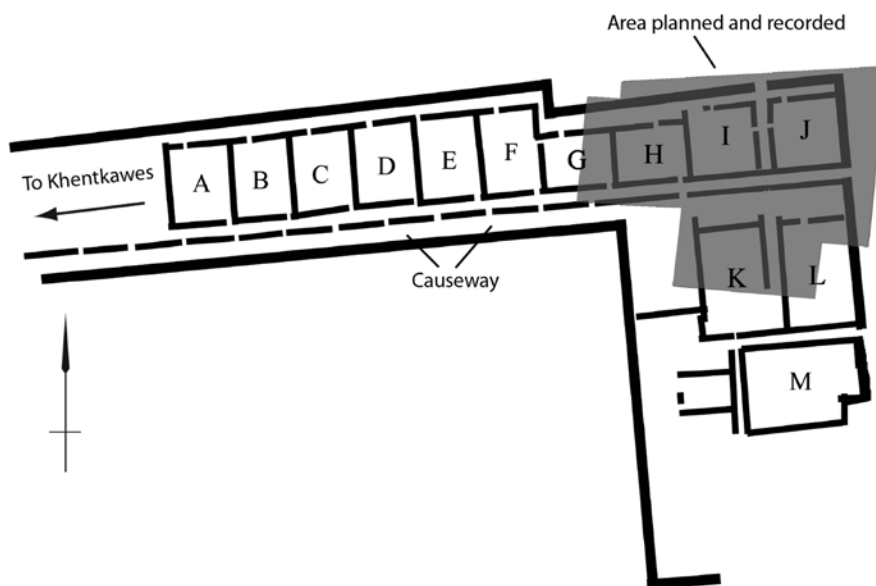


Figure 1. Schematic plan of the Khentkawes Town

## GIZA PLATEAU MAPPING PROJECT

of the thick northern enclosure wall (as well as the causeway walls) was completely gone. Some traces in the bedrock and cuts in the crushed stone and marl fill still showed the tracks of walls. Enough remained that we could tell which walls corresponded to those on Selim Hassan's map.

### Building Phases

Lisa Yeomans determined that Buildings I, J, K, and L were part of an early building phase, carried out prior to the construction of the causeway and the buildings to the west along the north side of the causeway. In short, the "foot" of the KKT existed before the "leg." Yeomans also found that the eastern part of the town was occupied longer, with at least one phase of rebuilding.

When Yeomans cleared the entrance to the causeway (fig. 2) she found a large limestone



*Figure 2. Clearing the KKT causeway entrance. View to the west*

pivot socket that projected into the causeway from the north wall and was much too large for the width of the causeway. The pivot and its jamb belonged to a doorway that preceded the causeway. This doorway must have been fitted with a swinging wooden door that would have been roughly 1.7 m wide (fig. 3).

Yeomans found evidence of another doorway, a limestone threshold, and large pivot socket in the northern enclosure wall. This opened to a street, about 2 m wide, which ran north-south between Buildings I and J and K and L.



*Figure 3. Doorway in an early phase building in the KKT. View to the northeast*

After the inhabitants built the long east–west causeway, crossing and cutting off the north–south street, they quarried out a tunnel or underpass that allowed passage from the eastern end of the KKT “leg” to the “foot” of the town. The underpass, a meter or less wide, sinks 2.47 m at its deepest point (fig. 4). The quarrymen never finished the tunnel, leaving on the floor a series of humps rising up to half a meter, which would have made any passage difficult.

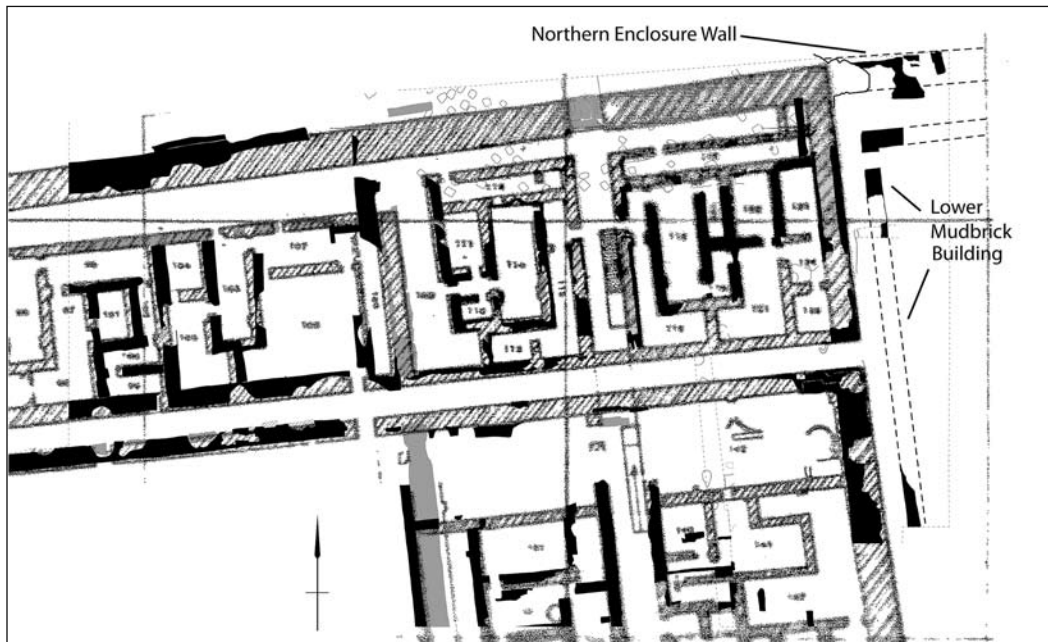


*Figure 4. The tunnel under the KKT causeway for the north–south street. View to the north*

### Town Continues to the East

When Yeomans cleared east of the KKT she found evidence that the settlement continued eastward. Beyond the end of the causeway she located the northwest corner of a mudbrick building with meter-thick walls. It was separated from the KKT by a corridor 2.44 m wide and lay at a lower elevation. The corridor was accessed by a door in the northern KKT enclosure wall, which extends east beyond the northeastern corner where the town makes its L-shaped turn (fig. 5).

Yeomans discovered that the bedrock surface drops vertically immediately under the eastern side of the eastern enclosure wall of the KKT. The enclosure wall respects and runs exactly along the drop of the ledge. The lower mudbrick building extends more than 28 m north–south along this ledge (fig. 6).



*Figure 5. Wall remnants planned in 2007 in KKT overlaid on Selim Hassan's plan. Mudbrick walls are black, limestone walls gray (Not to scale)*

## GIZA PLATEAU MAPPING PROJECT



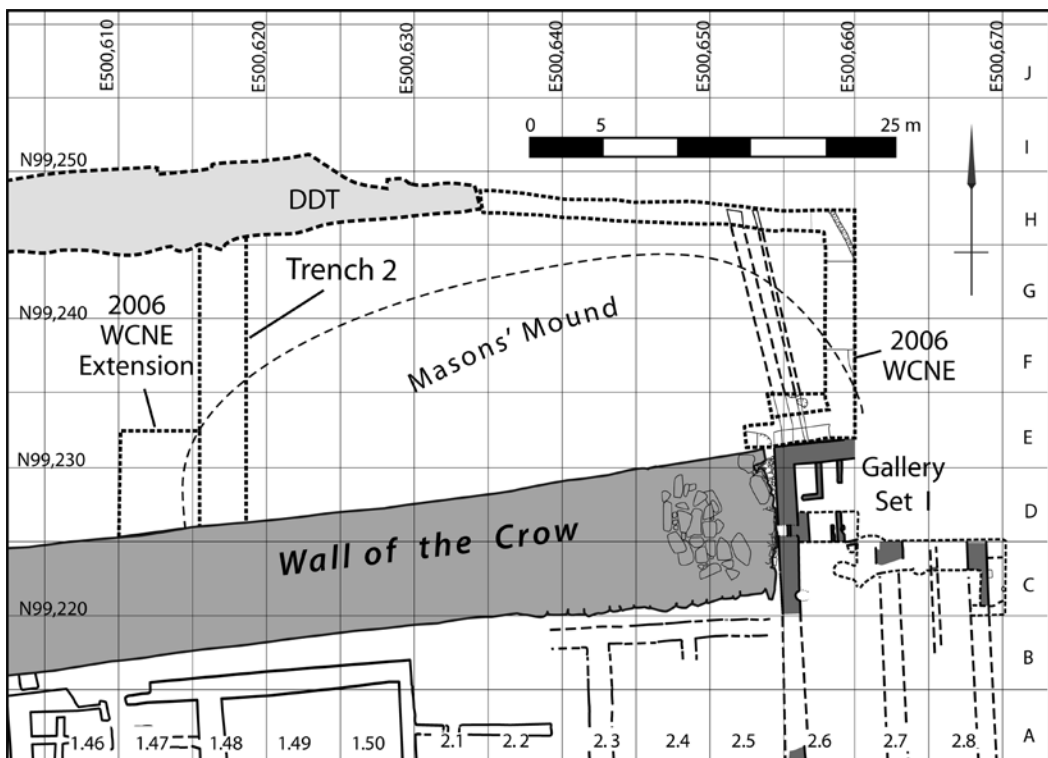
*Figure 6. The east quarry edge and the lower mudbrick building at the east end of the KKT. View to the south*

Neither this building nor the extension of the northern enclosure wall show in Hassan's published maps or the Royal Air Force aerial photograph from the Reisner archives, taken not long after Hassan's excavations. The area immediately east of the KKT "foot," where the lower building is located, appears to have been covered with clean sand.

In addition to excavation, we employed two remote-sensing techniques in the Khentkawes area during this season. Glen Dash conducted a geophysical survey in the area of the Khentkawes Town in November 2006, and our Giza Laser Scanning Survey team surveyed the Khentkawes monument in December.

### Work in Area A – North of the Wall of the Crow (WCN)

In late 2004, a contractor excavated a foundation trench just north of the Wall of the Crow for a cement corridor providing access from the Muslim and Coptic cemeteries on the west. The trench (known as DDT) ran parallel to the Wall of the Crow about 19 to 24 m north of it (fig. 7). Over 64 m of its 90.5 m length penetrated below the compact Old Kingdom surface that we had



*Figure 7. Map of the WCN and WCNE operations*

exposed in 2004, giving us an opportunity to examine and map the underlying layers during our winter–spring 2005 season (see Lehner 2006).

The DDT cut revealed that the compact Old Kingdom surface was at the top of two layers of compact masons' rubble, the Upper Rubble Layer and the Lower Rubble Layer, with a Sand Separation Layer in between. Judith Bunbury, Angus Graham, and Katy Lutley of the geomorphology team concluded that the lower portion of the sand in the separation layer was windblown, while the upper part was the result of anthropogenic activity. We believe that workers dumped this sand as a bed for the Upper Rubble Layer and for "Masons' Mound," the remains of an ancient ramp or embankment formed against the eastern end of the northern side of the wall during its construction.

In 2005 Derek Watson excavated Trench 2 (fig. 8) in order to trace the layering to the base of the Wall of the Crow (Watson 2005). In 2006 he extended Trench 2 to the west, opening a square, 6.0 m east–west  $\times$  5.6 m north–south, in which he found evidence of a series of limestone rubble walls built upon the Sand Separation Layer. Some ran parallel to the Wall of the Crow, others perpendicular, forming compartments. These were crude versions of the retaining and accretion walls that Egyptian builders used as temporary ramps and embankments for erecting large-stone structures. The evidence suggests, again, that Masons' Mound is the remains of such a ramp or embankment.

Within his western extension, Watson excavated a deeper probe, 2.0  $\times$  3.5 m, through the Sand Separation Layer down to the surface of the Lower Rubble Layer and to the foundation of the Wall of the Crow. In order to trace the stratification, he excavated a connection between his deep probe and the southern end of Trench 2. Watson found that the Sand Separation Layer pinches



**Figure 8.** WCN, Trench 2 extension and deep probe. The foundation stones of the Wall of the Crow, far right, can be seen protruding from under the wall. The section shows the composition of Masons' Mound. Note crude limestone rubble wall running perpendicular to the Wall of the Crow. View to the east

## GIZA PLATEAU MAPPING PROJECT

out toward the Wall of the Crow. Over the Lower Rubble Layer was a layer of gritty, rubbly sand, 28 to 35 cm thick. It is very possible that the builders dumped this sand to level out the Lower Rubble Layer so as to make an even bed for the ramp or embankment of Masons' Mound.

As they did with mastaba tombs and the Great Pyramid of Khufu, the builders prepared a low masonry foundation for the larger superstructure of the Wall of the Crow. The foundation slabs range from 36 to 45 cm thick and protrude from the bottom of the lowest course of stones by 35 to 40 cm (fig. 8). The tops of the foundation slabs on the northern side were 15.91 m to 15.82 m above sea level (asl). The builders laid them onto the Lower Rubble Layer, and partially into a shallow trench or cut into this layer, at 15.41 to 15.29 m asl. This compares to the value, 15.41 m asl, for the base of the foundation slab at the northeast corner of the Wall of the Crow.

Watson's 2006 trenches confirm that the builders laid down the Lower Rubble Layer as a hard bed on which they could bring in, maneuver, and set the stones for laying in the foundation and first course of the Wall of the Crow.

### Wall of the Crow Northeast (WCNE)

Lisa Yeomans supervised our 2006 operations north of the eastern end of the Wall of the Crow (WCNE) (fig. 9). She excavated a connector trench between the DDT and our 2002 trench, which runs north from the northern mudbrick wall of Gallery Set I. She also excavated from the southern end of the 2002 trench to the northeast corner of the Wall of the Crow (see fig. 7).

In her extension, Yeomans excavated northward along the eastern base of Masons' Mound, exposing a fieldstone retaining wall marking a formal, eastern boundary for the Mound. She found a second fieldstone wall about 70 cm to the east of the first. The second wall, 40 cm wide and preserved to a height of 54 cm, was built up against the face of the northern mudbrick wall of Gallery Set I and ran north while curving slightly to the east. Sandy soil with limestone chips filled the



*Figure 9. General view of operation WCNE. View to the west*

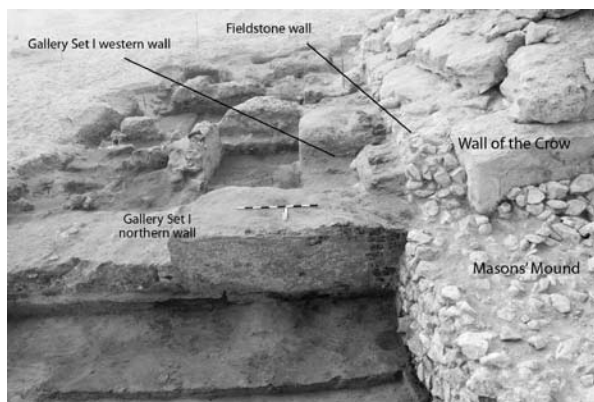
space between this fieldstone wall and the first. It appears that the builders raised and expanded the Masons' Mound ramp as they raised the end of the Wall of the Crow.

In this area north of the gallery, she also identified three floor levels, one of which contained a pit where people had dumped bread-pot fragments and other bakery waste. This waste must have come from Gallery Set I via a doorway, 80 cm wide, set in the gallery's northern mudbrick wall. This doorway was apparently in use while the Wall of the Crow was under construction and was later blocked.

Yeomans extended her trench westward at the end of the Wall of the Crow to clarify the relationship between the Wall of the Crow and Gallery Set I. In 2002 we learned that the eastern end of the Wall of the Crow was built up against the western wall of Gallery Set I. The corners of Gallery Set I, the Wall of the Crow, and Masons' Mound all meet here and would have touched. But when the builders placed the limestone blocks up against the western face of the gallery, they angled the end of the Wall of the Crow slightly west of north, leaving a thin, pie-slice gap, into which the fieldstone wall runs (figs. 10, 11).

How could the masons have built the fieldstone wall in that tight gap? Most likely they constructed the Wall of the Crow and the ramp in tandem, or in sequence, with the successive courses of the Wall of the Crow.

The actual corner stone of the Wall of the Crow was a very large block, 1.60 m east–west × 88 cm high. It sat on a thinner foundation slab, 43 to 44 cm thick, positioned in a foundation trench filled with smaller stones and sand. The large corner stone above it projected 20 or 30 cm farther out than the face of the foundation slab (fig. 11). This is the opposite of what Watson found in Trench 2, where the foundation slabs project about 35–40 cm from the face of the first course above. The difference lay in the fact that the masons dressed the lower courses of stone in Trench 2, but did not carry out this operation at the east end of the Wall of the Crow, leaving the wall unfinished. The bottom of the foundation slab was 69 cm lower than the base of the adjacent mudbrick walls of Gallery Set I. Here the bottom of the Wall of the Crow foundation is 15.41 m asl. This is within centimeters of the elevation at the bottom of the



**Figure 10.** *Juncture of the Wall of the Crow, Gallery Set I northern and western walls, and Masons' Mound. View to the south*



**Figure 11.** *WCNE juncture at the foundation of the Wall of the Crow. Note foundation slab beneath the corner stone of the Wall of the Crow. View to the southwest*

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foundation slabs that Watson excavated and that we found in the Wall of the Crow South operation's deep trench in 1991 and 2001. The builders must have prepared a very level bed for laying out the foundation of the Wall of the Crow.

The Wall of the Crow was a truly gigantic mass parked up against the western wall of Gallery Set I — just 11 cm from the mudbrick wall. Why build this massive stone structure up against an already existing gallery block, thereby sealing off all access to the site on the northwest, except for through the gate in the center of the Wall of the Crow? The Wall of the Crow speaks of “permanence” (even though the builders never finished dressing down the sides). The builders must have intended the wall to fulfill its purpose for a very long time and the Gallery Complex as well.

Yet, all our evidence shows that the Gallery Complex and this whole urban district had a short life-span. The site was occupied only until the end of Menkaure's reign. Menkaure's successor, Shepseskaf, built his monument at South Saqqara, 20 km away. The reach for permanence was in vain. The builders left the Wall of the Crow unfinished with one of its construction ramps — Masons' Mound — still in place.

### The Backhoe Trenches (BHT, BBHT1, BBHT2)

Before, or shortly after, we began our excavations in 1988–1989, someone using a mechanized digger cut a series of large, deep trenches through the ancient settlement deposits, exposing section views of the site (fig. 12). This season we decided to work in BBHT1 and BBHT2 because

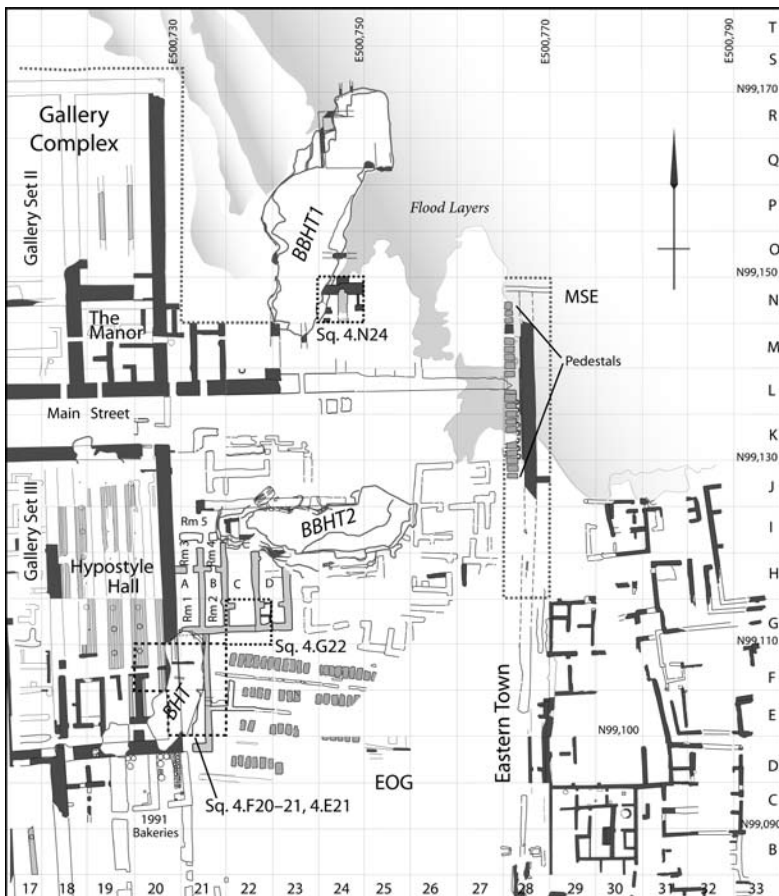


Figure 12. Location of the backhoe trenches (BHT, BBHT1, BBHT2)



the sides of the trenches had started collapsing as a result of the wetting and drying cycles caused by the high water table over the last few years. In addition we completed our long-term excavations in the first backhoe trench, BHT.

### BBHT1: The Biggest Backhoe Trench

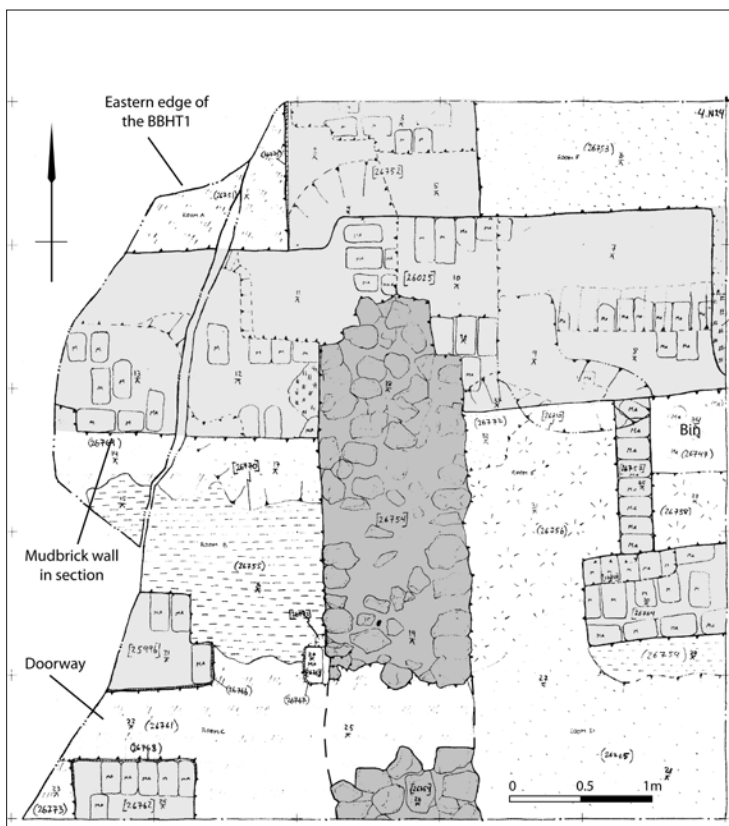
In November 2000 we uncovered the “biggest backhoe trench,” BBHT1, 25 m north–south  $\times$  9 m wide. This clearance showed large-scale architecture of great interest, but it was necessary to temporarily focus our attention elsewhere. Finally this season, Anies Hassan clarified and recorded the mudbrick walls that the digger had cut and then focused on excavations in grid square 4.N24 at the southeast corner of BBHT1, where we had long observed a large mudbrick wall as thick as the gallery walls.

The upper phase in square 4.N24 was badly disturbed, probably as a result of water, with the deposits “melting” into each other and making it very hard to define individual features. Below these disturbed deposits was a coherent older layout in phase with the mudbrick wall (fig. 13).

The wall, 1.25 m wide, runs east–west across the entire square, intersecting with another 1.25 m thick wall. The latter wall is slightly thinner south of the intersection, where it is built of limestone pieces (possibly the foundation for mudbrick). These two major walls formed four rectangular spaces, which may have been interior rooms. Features here include a bin and a doorway.

The results in square 4.N24 reveal that very substantial, complex architecture existed far east and north of Main Street dating from an older phase. This architecture may comprise structures similar to the Manor in the southeast corner of Gallery Set II. Given that the Manor had exceptionally thick walls, we have suggested that it was home to an overseer of the Gallery Complex.

**Figure 13. BBHT1.  
Sq. 4.N24 excavations**



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The results of our work in square 4.N24 suggest that major structures were built east beyond the Gallery Complex. The major cross walls here are much thicker than the thickest walls of structures in the Western Town that we have hypothesized were elite houses.

### BBHT2: Second Largest Backhoe Trench

BBHT2 measures 20 × 5 m and is at the northern end of EOG (East of the Galleries), an area with bakeries and other production facilities (see fig. 12). In carving out BBHT2, the mechanical digger cut all the way through two major phases of the ancient settlement, and it exposed a “shelf” of older phase walls and floors on the southern and western edges of the trench. In 2006 Dan Hounsell supervised the cleaning and recording of the sections in the BBHT2 and excavated the upper, later phase of occupation in the area adjacent to the southwest corner of the trench.

In an area between the Hypostyle Hall and BBHT2, Hounsell and Advanced Field School students Ahmed al-Laithy and Rabia Eissa excavated in four oblong enclosures defined by field-stone walls. These structures, which were probably bakeries, date to a late occupation of the site (fig. 14).

Enclosure A, situated against the outer mudbrick wall of the Hypostyle Hall at the far eastern end of Gallery Set III, had two chambers connected by a doorway, 70 cm wide. In the floor of the northern chamber (Room 3), Hounsell excavated nine roughly circular depressions, with diameters from 48 to 60 cm.

In Enclosure B, the next one to the east, there were also depressions in the floor of the northern room, some of which roughly mirrored the installation in Enclosure A. These bowl-shaped pits ranged from 40 to 58 cm in diameter. In both rooms the inhabitants had spread debris to level the floor and then made new shallow pits in the higher floor. These depressions might have been for vats for ingredients — flour, water, malt, and ferment — similar to the three vats in the bakeries we discovered in 1991. Or could the shallow depressions have been emplacements for grinding stones used to mill flour or to crush malted barley grains?

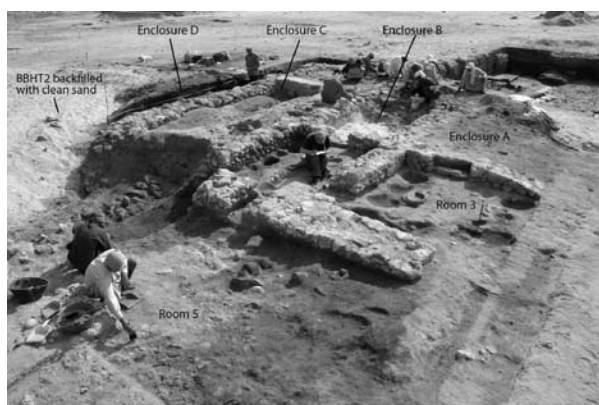
Enclosure C, the next to the east, was truncated on the north by the BBHT2 which left a shallow cut that exposed a “shelf” of older-phase walls and deposits underneath it.

Room 5 is an oblong chamber oriented east–west just north of Enclosures A and B. The backhoe almost obliterated the eastern side of the room, but a cross wall lines up with the eastern wall of Enclosure B, possibly indicating the eastern limit of Room 5. Unlike Rooms 3 and 4, this chamber saw little remodeling. It appears to have been a common vestibule for Enclosures A and

B, perhaps a control room where someone monitored materials and activities within these enclosures.

Ahmed el-Laithy and Rabia Eissa excavated in Enclosure D and confirmed that it was a bakery. With a trench 1.80 m wide (east–west) at the southern end, 1.33 m wide at the northern end, and 9.40 m long, they longitudinally sectioned half of the bakery, which is broadly of the same period as the other enclosures.

A large pottery vat, like those in the two bakeries we found in 1991 (Lehner 1992c), was in the southeast corner in a small room,



*Figure 14. BBHT2 bakeries. Note pot emplacements in Room 3, along bottoms of walls*

1.80 m long, defined by a stub of a wall that projected from the main western wall. In the longer chamber to the north, a weathered group of broken bread pots lay in front of what might have been an entrance at the east end of the northern wall. Baking pits extended for 5.10 m along the length of the western wall of the northern room. At the far northern end of the western side of the bakery, a piece of granite and orange-burnt earth may have been the remains of a platform hearth, like those in the southeast corners of the 1991 bakeries. At the north end the mechanical digger that carved out BBHT2 removed the hearth platform and probably the doorway.

The layout is similar to the 1991 bakeries (Lehner 1992c) but turned in the opposite direction. The doorway and hearth appear to be in the northeast instead of the southwest corner; the hearth platform, where we think the bakers stacked the pots and heated them, is in the northwest instead of the southeast corner. The baking pits are along the western instead of the eastern wall, and the vat partially showing at the southern end of the bakery suggests that the vats were in the southeast rather than the northwest corners.

A feature we have not found in other bakeries was built into the southwest corner of the bakery: a bin, 90 × 80 cm, enclosed by a thin, low wall of single marl bricks, built up against the southern and western walls of the bakery. Another unique feature turned up on an ashy surface against the west wall of the back room: two bivalve half-shells, each 8 cm wide × 13 cm long. Did the bakers use these half-shells as scoops? Or did they have some symbolic or magical significance?

### **Excavations in EOG and BHT: The First Backhoe Trench**

The eastern (west-facing) section of the BHT cut through two major phases, both with intensive craft production involving fire. In the younger phase the inhabitants discarded large quantities of pottery fragments — mostly bread molds — in a thick layer that banked up around limestone pedestals arranged in rows. In the older phase they discarded quantities of curious “pink stuff” (PS) against the eastern side of a long, north–south mudbrick wall (see fig. 12).

The mechanized digger took out most of the deposits of the older phase on the opposite, western, side of the wall, but spared a bank of the lower layers. On this bank, which we dubbed the Faience Balk, we found evidence of faience production including faience tiles, the bottom of a small vessel, crushed quartz, and the peculiar slag-like “pink stuff.” We hypothesized that faience workers dumped waste from their production on the other, eastern, side of the long mudbrick wall.

During the 2006 season, Tim Stevens, working with Mike House and Delphine Driaux, supervised excavations in EOG/BHT (squares 4.F20–21, 4.E21; see fig. 12).

#### **The Faience Balk**

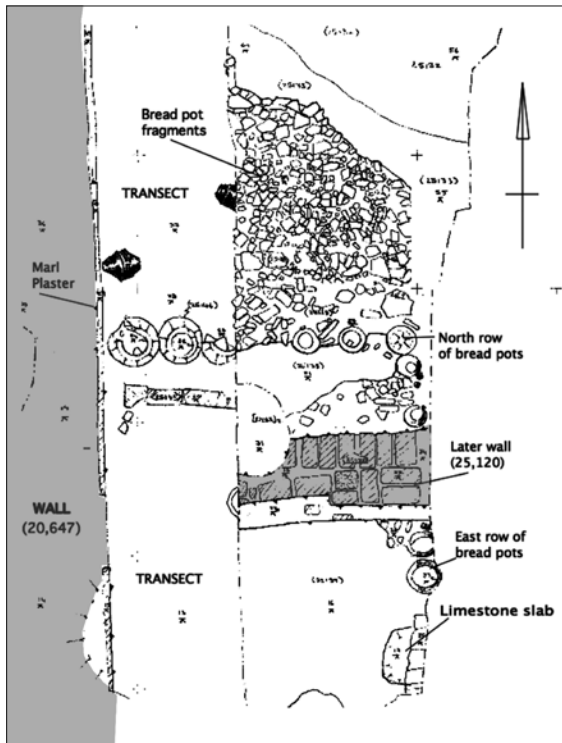
On the Faience Balk, Stevens excavated a series of deposits that appear to confirm the hypothesis that faience was made here. In one pit he found a fragile piece of thin faience and a possible fragment of copper. The lower layer of the pit contained a conical gaming piece, flat faience “tablet” fragments, green slag, copper, and a faience Horus eye (Stevens, Weekly Report 30ix–5x06). The fill of the second pit included another faience “tablet” fragment, while a third pit contained a piece of faience and a copper-stained quartz clast. In a 12 cm thick layer of crushed quartz, Stevens found seven more faience “tablet” fragments, faience slag/copper/stained quartz clasts, small shell fragments, and two larger shells, which might have been used as a source of calcite. Stevens suggested, “... quartz, limestone, shell, sand, and possibly ground ceramics, were all being used in this process” (Stevens, Weekly Report 12x06).

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**Excavating the Pink Stuff (PS)**

One goal for the 2006 season was to rapidly remove the PS across the eastern half of EOG in order to expose the early-phase architecture and floors. The PS removal zone extended 11.10 m north–south. On the north it was 3.13 m wide and on the south 2.06 m wide, a width decrease to the south due to the slight angle west of north of the early-phase wall. If we include the wall and the early-phase layers to the west of the wall at the southern end of the BHT, the whole lower phase exposure was 3.46 m wide.

The team found that the PS was a massive dump of soft waste from some pyrotechnic activity (fig. 15). It contained small pieces of faience and slag. At the northern end of the PS zone, House came upon a large round pit and excavated through seven or eight distinct PS layers with a combined thickness of 50 to 80 cm. He did not reach the bottom of the pit due to the high water table.

**Investigating the Lower Phase of the EOG**

*Figure 16. The EOG lower-phase bread-pot feature and later wall, from drawing GPMP 2006-662 by Mike House*



*Figure 15. Nakal Izumi, leader of the XRF/XRD team, examines the “PS” layer in EOG prior to sampling the material for x-ray fluorescence/x-ray diffraction analysis. View to the southeast*

After the team removed much of the PS east of the early-phase mudbrick wall, we could see that this wall ran for 11 m, most of the length of the excavations along the eastern side of the BHT. At the far southern end the wall turned to the east.

The PS layer filled the pit and rose in a hummock at the northeast corner of the excavation area. House excavated a 1 m wide trench through the remaining PS material, an underlying deposit, and down to the floor along



*Figure 17. EOG, lower-phase sherd layer and bread pots in a line. View to the southwest*

the eastern base of the main north–south wall. The excavations exposed a row of five bread pots turned upside down, resting on their rims. He excavated an east–west shallow trench, 1 m wide, through the lowest layers above the floor on which the bread pots rested.

To the north of the bread pots, we uncovered a deposit of concentrated bread mold fragments, which extended 2.70 m north–south and a little over 2 m east–west. On the west the pottery fragments bank up against the face of the main mudbrick wall. On the south they run up to the row of bread pots along the north of a rectangular space, 60 cm wide (north–south)  $\times$  2.07 m long (east–west). A line of upside-down bread pots formed the eastern side of this space. The eastern line of pots runs north–south under a wall lying directly over the bread pot ensemble (figs. 16–17). This later wall, feature number (25,120), extends west 1.36 m from the eastern limit of excavation. It is 60 cm wide, formed of headers on the north side and headers and stretchers on the south. This wall seems to have been cut about 92 cm from the western face of the main north–south wall (20,647). It was probably an internal wall forming a small room to the south, measuring 3.20 m north–south  $\times$  2.20 m east–west to the limit of excavation. The room on the other side of the wall, a large chamber, continues into the northern balk.

### Main Street East (MSE): Clues to the Pedestal Mystery

In 2006 and 2007 we returned to excavations at the far eastern end of Main Street, area MSE, where Ashraf Abd al-Aziz and a team, including field-school students, excavated seven  $5 \times 5$  m squares running north–south, 4.N28–H28 (see fig. 12). They were tracking a thick mudbrick wall that we had uncovered in square 4.L28 under layers of Nile flood deposits. It appeared to have been an important boundary between the production area east of the galleries and the Eastern Town.

### Boundary Wall Confirmed

By the end of the 2007 field-school excavations the team had determined that the boundary wall continued south nearly 20 m. The wall probably once ran farther north and south, possibly all the way to the entrance of the Royal Administrative Building (RAB). It may have been an imposing barrier between the Eastern Town and the EOG production yard. At some point, the inhabitants removed the wall on the north and appear to have replaced it with a fieldstone wall on the south, continuing toward the RAB. The team found fieldstones preserved for a thickness of only a few centimeters in their southern excavation squares.

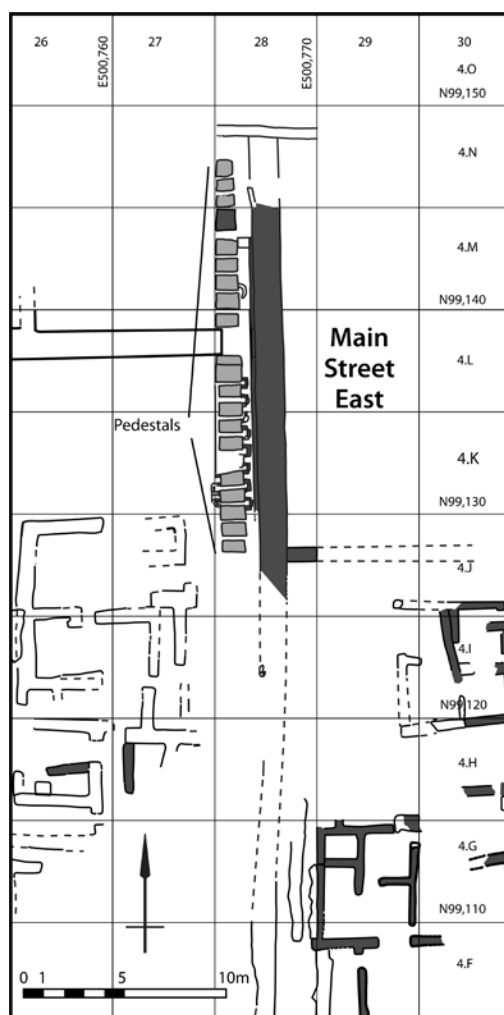


Figure 18. Map of the MSE operation

## GIZA PLATEAU MAPPING PROJECT

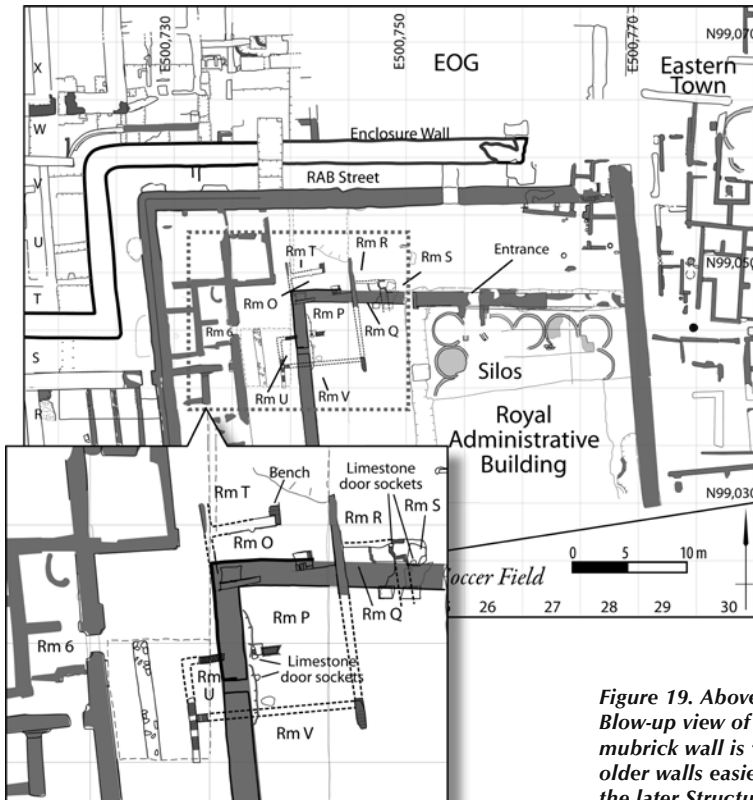
## Pedestal Series

Just as dramatic as confirmation of the eastern Boundary Wall was the discovery of twenty pedestals, similar to ones we have found elsewhere on the site, arrayed in a line along the western side of the wall and separated by a narrow corridor (fig. 18). We know from the pedestal assembly in the southern corridor of the Pedestal Building (see below) that the pedestals supported compartments above the slots between the pedestals. Ceramic jars sat in sockets at the base of the slots, possibly to catch liquid dripping from whatever was stored in the compartments. The field-school team found little sockets at the bases of eight of the slots between the pedestals. The sockets were formed of mudbrick and stone fragments, presumably for holding jars like those in the Pedestal Building (see below). Whatever the ancient inhabitants did with these curious structures, they were doing it incrementally, but on a large scale, over the entire site from the Western Town to Main Street East.

## The Royal Administrative Building (RAB)

At the beginning of the 2006 season it was a sad sight to see water pooling in the deep part of the Royal Administrative Building (RAB), one of several ponds across the site created by a dramatic rise in the water table that began in 2005. Freya Sadarangani supervised excavations during the 2006 and 2007 seasons, working in 2006 with field-school students (fig. 19).

During 2004 and 2005 her team had examined the northwest corner of the RAB and chronicled the construction of the complex, its first occupation, all subsequent phases of structural remodeling and occupation, and its eventual collapse. These excavations revealed an earlier building



**Figure 19.** Above: Map of the RAB operations. Left: Blow-up view of Structural Complex 2 walls. A thick mubrick wall is “faded” to make the underlying, older walls easier to see. The thick wall belongs to the later Structural Complex 1

(Structural Complex 2), which ancient workers demolished and leveled in order to construct the later complex (Structural Complex 1), the greater RAB enclosure (Sadarangani 2005).

In 2006 Sadarangani's team extended their excavations eastward with a transect running to the eastern wall of the RAB through the seven squares 4.T23–29. During the 2007 season they expanded their excavations through the open area on the north side of the RAB's northern wall.

### Rooms of the Early Phase

The team found more remains of Structural Complex 2 to the east, but preservation was poor. Ancient workers had badly damaged many of the walls when they built the later Complex 1. Enough remained to suggest eight spaces or rooms, but none of these had all original bounding walls. The walls were oriented just west of north, with plastered faces. Remains of silty surfaces overlay earlier plastered floors and limestone door sockets. Little remained of the overall spatial organization, but the team excavated parts of walls that had formed two rooms, P and O, with a mudbrick bench or (sleeping?) platform against the north face of the southern wall of Room O. Sheets of red-painted wall plaster from the fill of the eastern end of Room O suggest that this room or Room Q, adjacent on the east, may have been painted. Room Q also featured a reddish-pink floor. A limestone threshold and pivot socket marked the only surviving doorway, 50 cm wide, at the northeast corner of Room Q. Since the door would have swung inward, Room Q may have been a private, secure space.

### A Building Site

The RAB builders dug many large pits in the open L-shaped court between the Sunken Court of Silos, the northern RAB wall, and along the rooms on the west side of the complex. The evidence suggests that the builders excavated some of these pits to obtain sand for making bricks and other building purposes.

The ancient builders also dug a hole at least 1.5 m deep, 20 m (east–west) × at least 10 m (north–south), to create the Sunken Court where they then built the mudbrick silos. At the same time they built up the areas to the north, east, and west, perhaps taking advantage of a natural ridge. In pits cut through the deposits we see tip lines where people dumped material downward from north to south. If the silos were for grain storage, the Sunken Court made it possible to easily fill them from the higher level they created above. Sadarangani believes that the sunken enclosure and the silos were planned from the inception of the later phase of building the RAB. “The area had been excavated to the lower level, the circular structures had been built, and the strip external to the structures backfilled, prior to the construction of the eastern limestone enclosure wall of the RAB” (Sadarangani 2007).

The Sunken Court was bounded on the west by a substantial east–west mudbrick wall. By the end of excavation we had not yet reached the base of this wall nor that of an east–west mudbrick wall to the north, which underlay later-phase architecture. We have so far found eight silos along the east, north, and west sides of the court. They stand one against another



*Figure 20. The RAB silos and entry into the Silo Court. The dark sand in the background is backfill of the Sunken Court, saturated and moldy from ground water. View to the southeast*

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except for a gap of 1.40 m in the northwest corner, which corresponds to a gap in the northern mudbrick wall. Along with two small north–south walls on either side, these openings create an entrance into the central portion of the compound (fig. 20).

### Ever-Changing Courtyard

The broad, L-shaped space, probably open to the sky, was approximately 7 m wide on the north × about 15 m wide west of the Sunken Court. From the northeast entrance of the RAB people could have accessed rooms at the west side of the complex and possibly the Sunken Court.

Between the north wall of the RAB and the large limestone Enclosure Wall ran a roadway, which we dubbed “RAB Street,” that would have channeled and possibly restricted access from the west through the northeastern entrance of the RAB (see fig. 19). People might have also approached from the north via a lane running along the Boundary Wall in area MSE. At present we do not know about a southern access to RAB.

Access and movement within the complex changed over time. On the west side of the L-shaped courtyard people built a limestone wall, creating a corridor, 1.20 m wide.

The corridor gave access to the western rooms through a door in a central chamber (Room 6). Later, they demolished the wall and built a narrow north–south mudbrick wall 5 m to the east. Both walls were attempts to separate the western rooms from the rest of the complex, perhaps for security. The walls may have prevented the workers/residents in the western rooms from having direct access to the Sunken Court of Silos.

### Circular Features

The earliest occupation features of the northern courtyard included a roughly laid, sloping metalled surface of limestone gravel and a circular pit bordered with mudbrick. Two clusters of circular depressions flanked the pit, twenty-three on the west and eight on the east, along with a shallow, clay-lined pit (fig. 21). The diameters and depths of the western depressions could have accommodated the bases of small bread molds. The eastern depressions are more varied, with diameters and depths suitable as sockets for the bases of medium-sized bread molds. However, we found no evidence of burning, such as we might expect if these were baking pits.

The mudbrick-bordered, circular pit was in use longer than the pot emplacements and underwent several alterations. People filled the original pit with mudbrick and rebuilt the mudbrick border on top. During the final renovation they added a limestone border (three courses remain),

enclosing a space  $1.52 \times 1.34$  m. The smaller circular depressions went out of use, and people dug a rectangular pit, just to the north, and filled it with pottery fragments. Later they covered this rectangular pit with a surface and built a mudbrick bench,  $1.54 \times 1.04$  m, between the circular limestone feature and the northern RAB enclosure wall. Could the bench have been a sleeping platform?

The next phase in the changing footprint of the courtyard saw the disbandment of the narrow north–south mudbrick wall and the construction of walls, 1.10 m wide, running north–south and east–west 5 m east of the



**Figure 21.** *Circular features in the RAB northern court. Note circular depressions in forefront of photo and circular pit farther east. View to the east*



western rooms and continuing south beyond the limit of excavation. These walls redefined the enclosure along the west of the Sunken Court of Silos. Where the east–west wall reached the Sunken Enclosure its eastern end appeared to have been robbed. This wall may have continued east as a later build of the northern wall bounding the Sunken Court.

In the final phases of occupation the relatively short-lived mudbrick wall bordering the enclosure to the west of the Sunken Court was demolished or collapsed. People increasingly dumped waste throughout the courtyard. The opening up of this space appears to correspond with a reduction in activity in the western rooms, and possibly a partial abandonment of that area.

### Area AA and the Pedestal Building (PB)

During our first excavation on the site in 1988–1989, we exposed part of a mudbrick structure and a building of fieldstone walls in Area AA. We called the latter the Pedestal Building (PB) because rectangular pedestals, 50–70 cm × 1.20 m long, ran down each side of the structure (fig. 22).

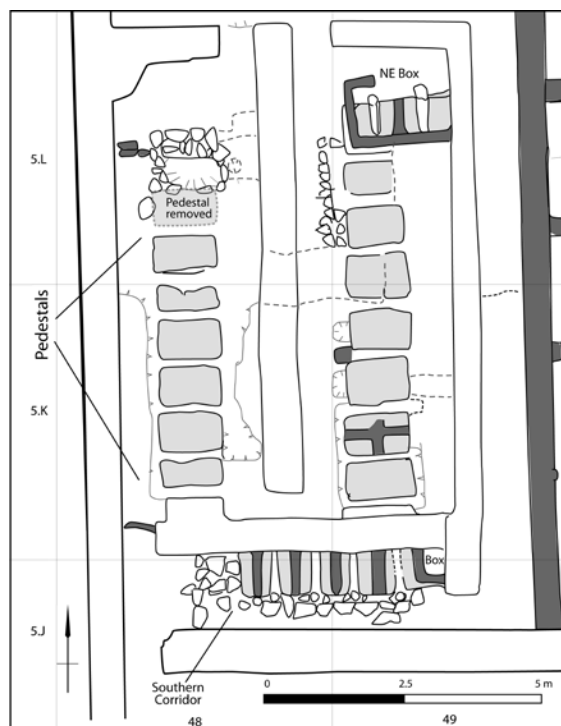
During our 2006 and 2007 seasons, James Taylor, Chaz Morse, and Banu Aydinoğluligil excavated the southern end of the PB and areas flanking it on the north and east to explore its relationship to surrounding buildings and to the Western Town. Taylor also investigated the building sequence of the PB itself.

### Southern Corridor Excavations

Fiona Baker excavated the southern end of the PB in 1991 (fig. 23) and found, attached to the back wall of the building, a series of five short mudbrick walls with brick tumble between them. Since we had found traces of such walls on the tops of pedestals in other places we suspected that the walls formed compartments resting over the spaces between the pedestals.

In 2006 we found that the walls did indeed form compartments on pedestals. They stood at least 20 to 30 cm high on four pedestals, which were 56 to 64 cm high × 55 cm wide × 74 cm deep. A half pedestal in the east marked a total of four slots. The series ended in a narrow box, 41 cm wide, formed by an L-shaped single-brick partition wall built against an extension of the east wall of the PB.

The partitions created four compartments, each about 60 cm wide, formed over one of the slots between the pedestals. The widths of the slots are irregular because the sides of the pedestals are mostly unfinished. One slot,



**Figure 22.** Schematic plan of the PB after 2006–2007 excavations. An early phase of the building had eight pedestals in either row. The inhabitants took down the last northern two of the eastern row when they built the NE Box. Excavators in 1988–89 took down the remains of the second to the last on the northern end of the western row. The last on the north was modified with a stone-lined basin on its southern side

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for example, varies from 9 to 14 cm wide; another is 17 cm wide. Marl plaster goes down only 15 to 20 cm into the sides of the slots and only 23 to 36 cm down the front faces of the pedestals. Similarly, the inner sides of the box at the eastern end are very irregular, with large angular limestone fragments undressed and unplastered.

At the base of the pedestals we found four complete red pottery jars still in place, leaning inward against the pedestals just in front of the slots (figs. 23–24). Commonly called “beer jars,” (our type AB4, see Wodzińska 2007: 296–97), these porous, crude, handmade jars are the second



**Figure 23.** *The southern corridor of the Pedestal Building after 2006. View to the northeast*

most common type of pottery across the site, after bread molds. The shoulders of jars, 14 to 18.5 cm wide, just fit between the sides of the slots. With mouths 8.5 to 9.0 cm in diameter, the jars stood about 25 to 28 cm off the ground. A larger jar (type AB1, 134 cm high, 21 cm at shoulder, mouth about 8 cm diameter), with white wash over a marl fabric, lay against the southern face of the westernmost pedestal (fig. 23).

On the floor, the jar bottoms stood in the fill of a crude channel, 12 to 20 cm wide, with a border of limestone pieces. In 1988–89 we found similar channels along the bases of

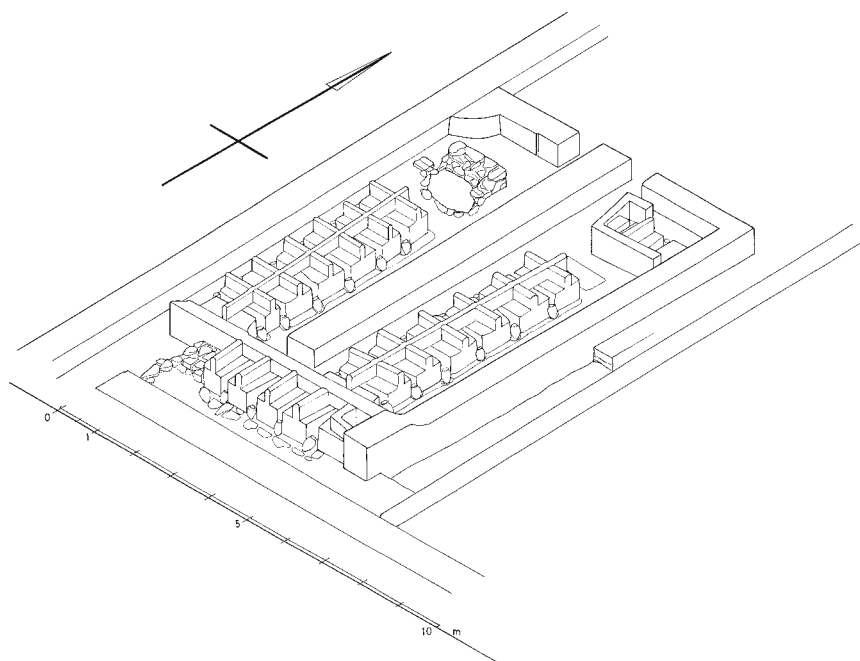


**Figure 24.** *Jar in place against the opening of a slot between pedestals (left), and jars leaning into slots down the pedestal series in the southern corridor of the Pedestal Building (right). The sides of the slots are not rendered with plaster, leaving exposed the irregular limestone and clay fabric*

pedestals in the PB (Lehner 1992a: 23–24) and, more recently, in Area EOG (see fig. 12). Within the channels in the PB the builders had made little circles of sherds and limestone fragments, or in one case a mud-filled hole lined with marl, in front of the slots between the pedestals. In front of the MSE pedestals the workers formed little sockets of mudbrick and stone fragments (see above). These sockets and circles were for the pointed bottoms of jars. The channels in which we find the sockets are more puzzling, for they come to dead ends and do not drain anywhere. What's more, in the PB the inhabitants sometimes covered the channels when they re-plastered the floor with marl.

Having seen the complete pedestal assembly in the southern corridor, we could imagine it replicated many times over in the main room of the Pedestal Building. Rows of six pedestals on the west and, originally, eight pedestals on the east, made six and eight slots respectively (fig. 25). Each slot of each row ran between two adjacent pedestals that supported two compartments, one facing east, another facing west. If, as in the southern corridor, jars leaned into each slot, the assembly included a total of twenty-eight jars. The whole ensemble also included the smaller set of two slots, two jars, and two compartments in the little box in the northeast corner (fig. 22).

We are considering several hypotheses about the purpose and function of this ensemble. The compartments appear to have been for storage, off the ground, with ventilation underneath provided by the spaces between the pedestals. The upright jars may have caught a substance dripping from storage containers. Or, if filled with water, the jars might have helped to keep the compartments cool and moist by the evaporation of the water. The function of the pedestals may have been related to the activities in the structures immediately north of the PB.



**Figure 25. Reconstruction of the Pedestal Building with partition walls forming compartments over the slots and pottery jars at the base of each slot**

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**The North Building: Area FS-AA**

On the north side of the PB is an east–west corridor with an opening on the north leading into another structure (Lehner 1992c: 57, fig. 1). Along the west side of this northern building the field-school students excavated a corridor, 90 cm wide (figs. 26–27). Its west side was bounded by a north–south limestone wall, which was an extension of the west wall of the PB. The narrow corridor ran from a doorway, 68 cm wide, at the western end of the corridor between the PB and the Oven Room. The western face of the corridor’s eastern wall was painted black along the base. The students excavated down to a loamy mud floor, the same level as the floor of the PB, 40 cm higher than the floors in the northern building.

To the east of the corridor we excavated a series of rooms in the North Building, north and east of the PB (fig. 27). We ascertained the general shape and dimensions of the North Building by plotting the walls that show in the ruin surface (the “mud mass”) on the northeast, where we have not yet excavated, and by combining the plan of these walls with the ruins on the southwest,

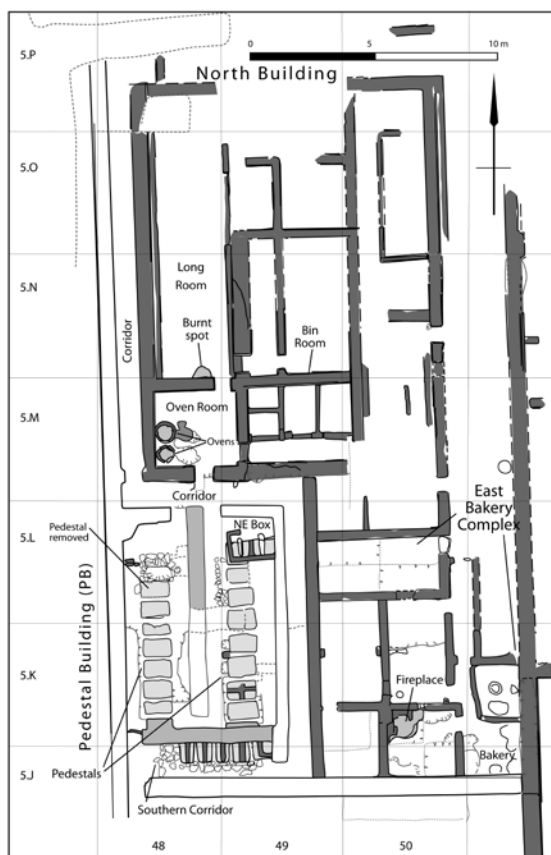


*Figure 26. The corridor along the western side of Area AA-FS following excavations by the students of the 2007 field school. View to the north*

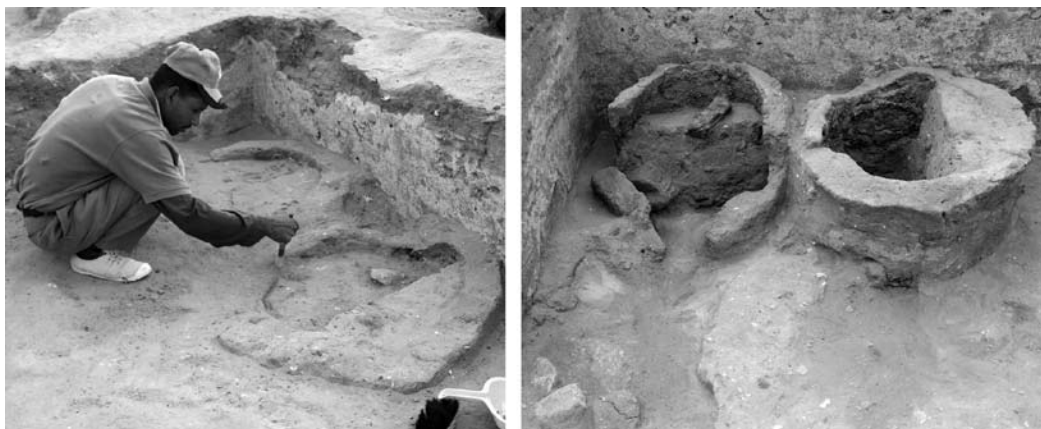
where we have excavated. This rectangular mudbrick complex is 16.5 m north–south  $\times$  12.4 m east–west. North–south walls divided the building into three strips. The eastern strip, 2.8 to 3.0 m wide, extends south to adjoin a set of baking chambers located east of the Pedestal Building (see below). The middle strip of the northern building, 4.0 to 4.2 m (8 cubits) wide, includes the Bin Room and the western strip consists of the Oven Room and Long Room.

In the first chamber immediately north of the PB, the Oven Room, Banu Aydmoglugil excavated two ovens, about  $70 \times 85$  (south oven) and  $92 \times 94$  cm (north oven) in diameter (fig. 29). The oven walls were a single-brick (10–12 cm) thick. Irregular depressions in the floor at the eastern bases of the ovens seem to have been part of the assembly. Whitish wood ash filled the bottom interior of the ovens.

The square Oven Room, only  $3.0 \times 3.2$  m, had no other features except doorways to the east and north. Enclosed in thick alluvial



*Figure 27. Schematic plan of the Pedestal Building and the mudbrick building to the north and east. The Long Room, Oven Room, Bin Room, and eastern bakeries were excavated in 2006–2007*



*Figure 28. Excavation of the ovens (left) in 2006, and the ovens after excavation (right). View to the southwest*

mudbrick walls, it must have been very warm when both ovens were stoked. The inhabitants had at some point blocked the eastern doorway and plastered over it. The floor of the Oven Room is 40 cm lower than the general floor level of the Pedestal Building. One must step down through the entrance from the transverse corridor along the northern front of the Pedestal Building.

From the Oven Room one could access the Long Room, 3.20 m wide, on the north. We excavated most of the Long Room, although not the northern end as it was outside the limits of excavation. However, traces of a northern wall indicate a total length of about 11.50 m (22 cubits). The excavators found, on the clean mud-paved floor of the Long Room, a burnt spot against the wall right of the doorway into the Oven Room. Two low curbs formed of a single row of bricks run along the base of the western and eastern walls of the Long Room.

*Figure 29. Oven Room and Bin Room. View to the west*



*Figure 30. Excavations north of the Pedestal Building in 2006. The Oven Room is to right, the Bin Room to the left. The Pedestal Building is on the right in the background. View to the southwest*



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To the east of the Oven Room, we excavated a chamber, 2.8 m × 1.98 m, which contained three rectangular bins of approximately equal size that divided the northern part of the chamber (figs. 29–30). A corridor ran along the bins on the south. Low round-topped walls, about 25 cm high, partitioned the bins from one another and from the corridor. Before the workers made the partition walls, they plastered the inner southern and eastern faces of the main walls of the room, facing into the room, with a pink gypsum plaster.

We do not know how the ancient inhabitants used the northern building. One suggestion is that the Long Room (and perhaps the similar room in the eastern strip) and the bins were for malting. In this process barley or other grains sprout by being first steeped in water and then kept moist; after some days growth is arrested by drying and “kilning.” The malting process in breweries and distilleries of more recent times involved bins, broad, open “malting floors,” and kilns or ovens for drying.

### The AA–Western Town Transect (B)

We first worked in the area immediately east of the PB in 1988–89, when our first excavation square, A1, uncovered part of the eastern bakery complex (Lehner 1992b: 23). We continued in season 2005 in our “Transect B,” where Lauren Bruning supervised Field School Unit 1 (FS1) excavations (Lehner, Kamel, and Tavares 2006: 69). Their preliminary work in squares 5.K50, 5.J50, and 6.K1 located major walls and linked the PB with the Western Town to the east.

This season we excavated a series of rooms that is a southerly extension of the eastern strip of the northern building (fig. 27). On the south this room complex is bounded by an east–west limestone wall that is also the southern boundary of the PB. A north–south mudbrick wall on the east side separated the complex from House Unit 1 (see below). So far we have found no access or doorway through this major north–south wall, so the PB and northern complex appear to have been strictly separated from the Western Town. The eastern arrangement appears to have been entered through a broad corridor, slightly over 2.5 m wide, running along the east side of the complex.

A doorway, 74 cm wide, opened to a room 4.15 × 2.56 m, off the west side of the broad corridor. A large trapezoidal limestone slab, 2 × 56 cm and 5 cm thick, formed the threshold (fig. 31). Susan Sobhi excavated two floors in this chamber, which we dubbed the Limestone Threshold Room. She removed the upper floor, made of compact, dark gray ashy soil, 2 cm thick, over a make-up layer of pottery fragments, from the northwest and

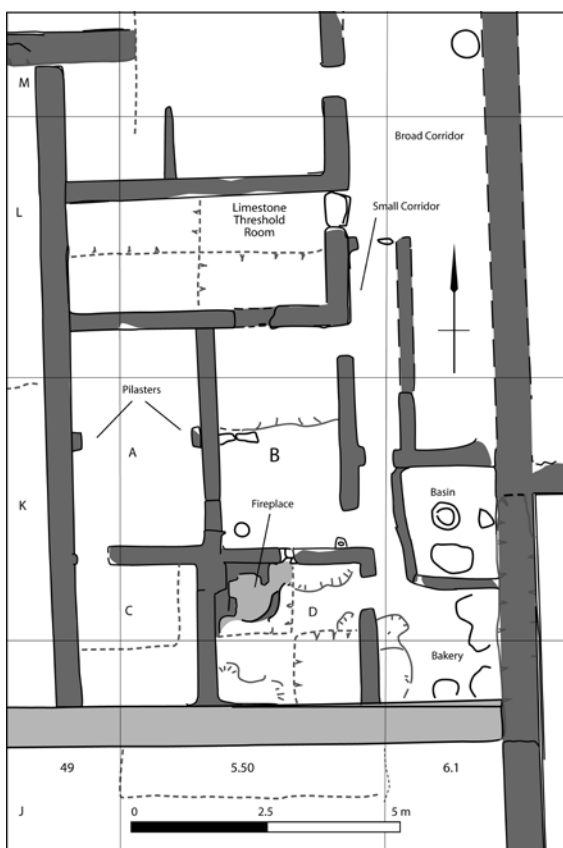


Figure 31. Map of the East Bakery Complex in Area AA

southeast quadrants. The underlying floor is 2 cm thick over sand, as we could see in a pit, which also removed part of the southern wall.

Just outside the doorway of the Limestone Threshold Room two large bread pots lay on the floor, obscuring evidence of a narrow doorway and corridor leading south into a series of small rooms (fig. 31). At the end of the season, after the excavations had ceased, we found a narrow, single-brick jamb extending east from the exterior wall of the Limestone Threshold Room. Several centimeters farther east, stones set into the floor may mark the threshold of an entrance into a narrow corridor. A portion of the eastern wall is preserved running north from the Basin Room and forming a corridor about 1 m wide. If this corridor had continued all the way to the jamb it would have restricted access to these rooms, which appear to have been a baking complex.

### **The Basin and Bakery Room**

At the south end of the narrow corridor a doorway, 58 cm wide, opened into the Basin and Bakery Room, 2.40 × 4.45 m (fig. 31). In the northeast corner a low, round-topped rim, a single brick wide, enclosed a basin 2.20 × 1.90 m. The basin had a noticeable and probably intentional oval-shaped dip to the south, lined with silt. A silt-lined hole in the center of the basin, 50 cm diameter at the top and 30 cm in diameter at bottom, could have accommodated one of the small vats, about 42 cm diameter, such as we have found embedded in floors elsewhere on the site.

A fireplace platform, about 1 m × 77 cm, was built into the southwest corner of the Bakery Room. Extending east of the fireplace, we found a patch of compact, gray wood ash, 65 × 65 cm. When we removed the hearth we found a large semi-circular depression in the same corner. This and irregular depressions at the base of the eastern and southern walls must have been baking pits.

### **Four Rooms and a Fireplace**

To the west of the Basin and Bakery Room we uncovered four small rooms we provisionally designated A through D (fig. 31). Room A is divided into a north and south chamber by short jambs or pilasters projecting from the western and eastern walls. The northwest corner of the room was blackened and reddened by fire from a hearth. The southern part of the room featured a circular feature, 50 cm in diameter, set into the floor and lined with dense gray clay and granite fragments.

Room B was also partitioned. Along the line of the jambs in A, a dip in the floor and two stone fragments embedded in the floor divide the room into northern and southern halves. Although erosion took down the eastern wall to just a few centimeters, traces remain of a door at the north end, 60 cm wide, and another at the south end, 77 cm wide. The southern doorway had a swinging wooden door, indicated by a pivot socket, 22 × 22 cm, with a pivot hole 2 cm deep. The door closed against a flat granite piece set into the western face of the wall on the north side of the doorway. An emplacement for a small flat-bottomed ceramic bowl graced the southwest corner.

A doorway, 58 cm wide, opened from Room A to Room C, which was a baking facility. Concentrated gray ash covered the floor in the southeast corner. Baking pits were sunk into the floor along all four walls.

Room D was also used for baking. In the northwest and southeast quadrants we excavated concentrated dark gray ash, 40 cm thick. The highest surface of the ash represents the latest “floor” in what must have been a gradual accumulation. We found linear depressions in this surface along the south, east, and west walls, which may have been for baking bread in molds, or for setting bread pots after baking. The thick deposit of ash over the floor partially covered a fireplace, 90 ×

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93 cm, formed of crude brickwork against the walls of the northwest corner. The crude, round-fronted platform rose 20 cm off the floor.

The fragments of a large pottery vessel and nearly complete bread trays (provisionally type F1A; Wodzińska 2007: 306–07) rested upside down on the platform. A number of fragments of round, flat bread molds, or bread trays, were built into the fireplace and into the mudbrick walls of the chamber. Two or three nearly complete bread trays, type F1A or F1C (Wodzińska 2007: 306–07), were stacked within the fireplace.

The Basin and Bakery Room, along with Rooms A–D, appear to have comprised a baking complex with highly restricted, exclusive access through the narrow corridor.

### House Unit 1 in SFW (SFH.H1)

House Unit 1 is one of three large houses in the Western Town that we provisionally distinguished on the basis of the thick, long outer walls. These units could be houses, although the boundaries are not clear except, perhaps, in the case of House Unit 3. In 2006 and 2007 we continued work that we had begun here in 2005. Yukinori Kawae supervised the excavations, assisted by Manami Yahata.

### The 2006 Excavations

After seasons 2004 and 2005 we had not yet defined the western and northern boundaries of House Unit 1. In 2006 we determined what are most probably the outer walls (fig. 32). If these were indeed the bounding walls, House Unit 1 spanned approximately 25 m east–west × 16 m north–south, an area of 400 m<sup>2</sup>. We also determined that House Unit 1 was built before the

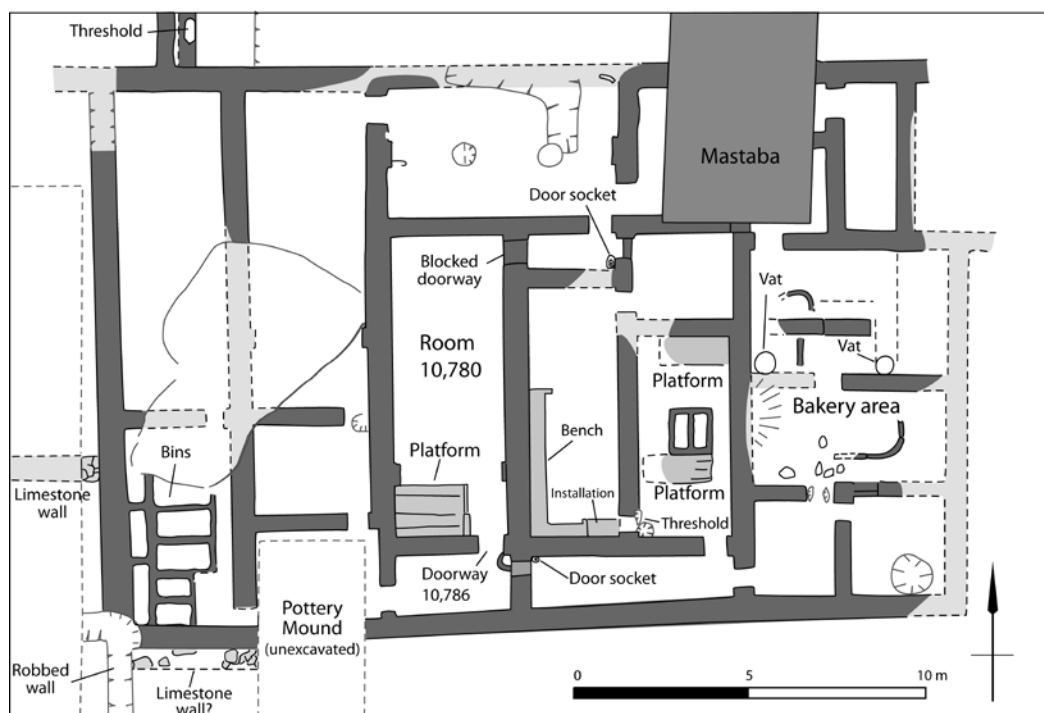


Figure 32. Map of House Unit 1. After a field drawing by Yukinori Kawae



Pedestal Building and adjacent bakery complex. Their common southern wall (east–west limestone wall) abuts the western wall of House Unit 1.

### The 2007 Excavations: Niche and Bed Platform

During the 2007 season we excavated the large central room (10,780),  $8.5 \times 3.0$  m, the least accessible interior space of House Unit 1. Assuming the entrance to the house was in the northeast corner, one had to go through at least nine doorways to reach the room. But access had been reconfigured two or three times, as indicated by blocked doorways. The last doorway into the room, still active at the time the site was abandoned, is on the south side. Just inside the door a sloping platform occupies the southwestern corner of the room (fig. 33). In other areas of the site we have seen bed platforms near or across doorways, where guards, who regulated access, slept at their posts (Lehner and Sadarangani 2007; Sadarangani 2005: 208–09).

However, features of this platform suggest it was the bed of a more important person. Oriented east–west, the platform occupies the southwest corner of the room and sits in a niche formed by pilasters built onto the east and west walls. The platform,  $1.96 \times 1.32$  m wide, slopes down from west to east. The lower, eastern end, which stops just short of the doorway (10,786) that opens to the south, shows a distinctive “footboard.” The 70 cm of the north half of this raised bar is cylindrical or rounded, while the 62 cm of the southern half is rectangular. Could the difference have marked sides of the bed for a sleeping couple?

The room may have been the main hall of the house with a bedchamber for the proprietor or senior resident. Just in front of the platform to the north we found a pile of fragments of molded marl clay with red-painted surfaces. While these could derive from the walls and roof of the room, the fact that this concentration lay immediately north of the bed platform suggests the fragments could derive from decoration of the niche enclosing the bed.

In 2007 we also excavated a peculiar series of six bins in a room, 5.86 m about 2.5 m, in the southwest corner of House Unit 1 (fig. 34). A narrow corridor, 50 cm wide, passed along the east side of the bins. These had been re-plastered and painted at least once. The partitions are preserved only 6 to 31 cm high.

### Pottery Mound Stratigraphy

Pottery Mound (PM) is a large, mounded dump within a confined, rectangular space south of House Unit 1, situated between it and House Unit 2. The two quadrants we excavated during 2005



Figure 33. Bed platform in central room of House Unit 1. View to the south



Figure 34. House Unit 1 bins and, to the right, Pottery Mound section. View to the east

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yielded an extraordinary collection of trash that suggested high status for the residents of the large house units. Among the 2,540 sealings thus far registered from PM, a large number bear motifs and designs that include titles such as “Royal Scribe” and appear to refer to institutions that we know from other textual sources belonged to the royal house, the palace, and the vizier’s office. However, PM layers covered what appeared to be the remains of the collapsed southern wall of House Unit 1. This seemed to indicate that the residents of House Unit 1 lived here before people dumped the trash of PM. This season we had to modify that conclusion. We found the earliest PM layers, laden with pot sherds and other trash, were dumped against the remains of the wall and under a tumbled layer of mudbrick, suggesting that some of the PM dumping began before the southern mudbrick wall was destroyed, so possibly before people abandoned the southern part of House Unit 1.

We also determined that this mudbrick layer, consisting of about 70 percent mudbrick, could have derived from the destruction of the walls during or after the time people abandoned this area. However, the volume of the mudbrick could not account for the structures adjacent to PM. This suggests that people took the mudbrick for reuse elsewhere. Across the site, but especially in the Western Town, we see evidence that people intentionally dismantled walls and took the brick away.

## Conclusion

Across an area of half a kilometer, from the KKT on the north to House Unit 1 on the far south of the Area A settlement, our excavations are shedding new light on the history of the Fourth Dynasty pyramid builders and bringing into focus their houses, administrative buildings, and the structures of everyday life they marshaled for the mighty social undertaking at Giza.

## Acknowledgments

We would like to thank our generous benefactors, without whose support our 2006–2007 season would not have been possible. We also thank Dr. Zahi Hawass, Undersecretary of State and Secretary General of the Egyptian Supreme Council of Antiquities (SCA); Sabry Abd el-Aziz, General Director of Pharaonic Monuments; Kamal Waheed, General Director of Giza Pyramids; Ala El-Shahat, Director of Giza Pyramids; and Mohammed Shiha, Chief Inspector of Giza Pyramids. We thank Mohammed Hameida, Abeer Abdallah Bakri, Ashraf Abd el-Aziz, Hanan Mahmoud Soliman, and Ahmed Eiz for serving as our SCA Inspectors. Our field school for SCA Inspectors was made possible by a USAID Egyptian Antiquities Conservation grant, the American Research Center in Egypt (ARCE), and our donors.

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### Clemens Reichel

The heat was becoming oppressive. No one, however, paid any attention. The strange sight unfolding in the middle of the field close to the village had raised the curiosity of some two dozen villagers that now encircled our little group. It became harder and harder to keep them away from our area of interest — an empty 10 × 10 meter square in the middle of the field, which we had laid out and swept as well as we could of all remnants of modern-day civilization (fig. 1). Along two opposing sides of the square were ropes with markings indicating a set of fixed distances. “Connecting” the first marking on each of these ropes was a third rope running perpendicular across the square. A third rope with identical markings was lying perpendicular to the other two across the square. The main attention, however, had shifted to a low rise to the south of this square behind which a woman with short blond hair had just emerged. In her hands she carried a roughly L-shaped device with wires and buttons emerging from it. This was too much for one of the older villagers. “*mafee dhahab hon*” — there is no gold here — he yelled at us, betraying an astounding amount of empirical knowledge on this issue. When I explained to him that it wasn’t gold but ancient mudbrick walls that we were looking for he walked away, reaffirmed in his previously uttered belief that archaeologists are definitely *majnoon* — crazy. Ann, the woman who had just emerged, was undeterred. “Don’t worry — they’ll all leave soon. Even the cows get bored with watching us after a while.” An hour later her assessment proved to be correct — how much fun can it be to watch a woman with a strange machine, who keeps on walking zigzags along ropes in the blazing heat of the day?

It was early September. We had arrived at Hamoukar a week earlier, fixed the broken water pipes in our dig house, and overcome some of the inevitable initial adversities often encountered during camp setup. This was the third season since Salam al-Kuntar, my Syrian co-director, and I took over the directorship of Hamoukar in 2005. The field seasons of 2005 and 2006 were large and very successful, but also had left us with vast amounts of materials that we hadn’t managed to process. The main objective for 2007, therefore, was to undertake a study season. Instead of excavations, we decided to try our luck with on-site geophysical work.

The principles and advantages of geophysical work have been described elsewhere in detail — in this respect readers may be referred to Scott Branting’s ongoing innovative work at Kerkenes Dağ in Turkey (see *Kerkenes Dağ Project Report* in this and previous *Annual Reports*). Although excavations in the Middle East tend to be very

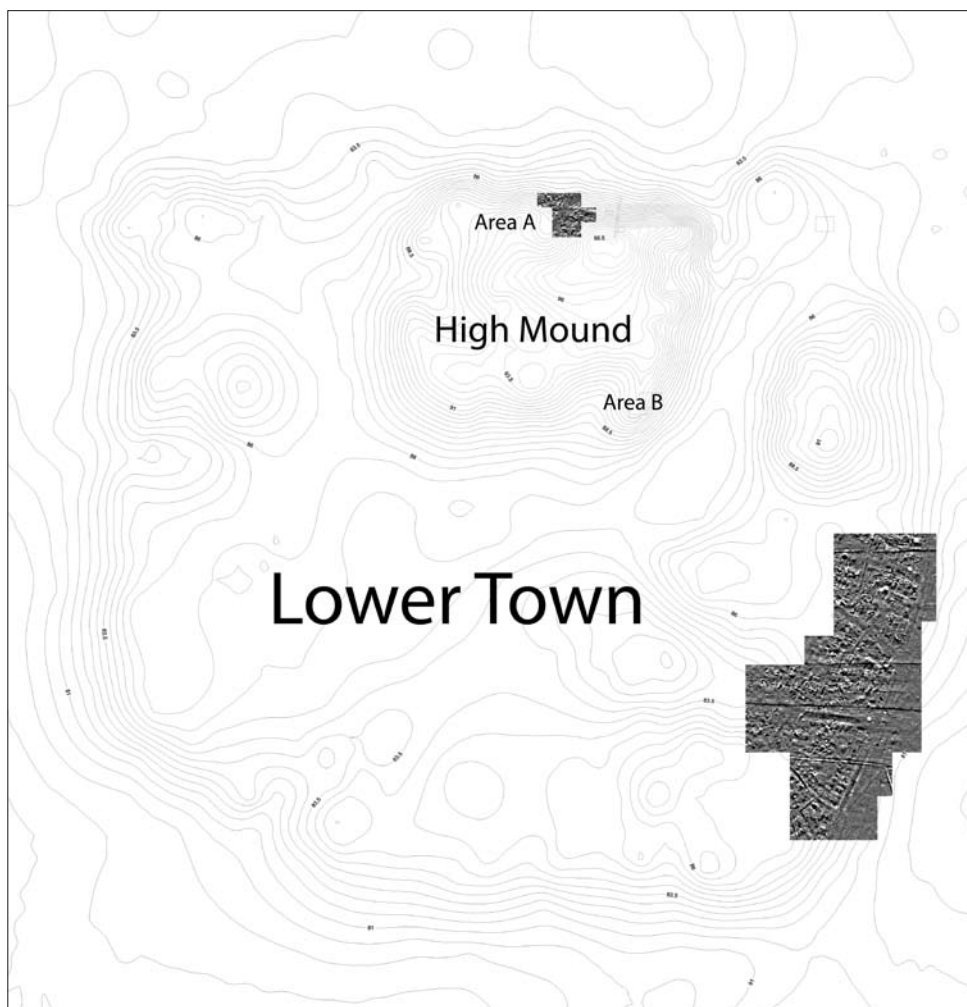


**Fig. 1. Collecting data with the magnetometer at Hamoukar’s lower town**



**Fig. 2. Ann Donkin calibrating the magnetometer (see inset)**

large in comparison with projects in other areas of the world, they generally remain tiny windows into the world of an ancient settlement. The large scale of Middle Eastern sites provides a real challenge. The main mound of Hamoukar, for example, covers an area of about 100 hectares (260 acres). Mathematically speaking, if we excavated ten new 10 × 10 meter trenches every year, it would take us 500 years to excavate half the site — and this would assume impossibilities such as “finishing” a trench completely in one season and no study seasons. The main objective of such a monumental undertaking, however, merely would be the recovery of an ancient settlement’s layout. Fortunately, geophysical work allows us to look below the surface without first having to remove earth by the truckloads. Among the available techniques, magnetometry is the fastest and most affordable. The only caveat with this technology is that it cannot disentangle the complexity of a multi-period site. In northern Mesopotamia it has worked best on the early Bronze Age “lower towns,” which emerged during a period of vast urban expansion around the older city mound. Survey work undertaken in past decades has indicated that most of the Early Bronze Age mounds of this area indeed have a lower town. Based on the site survey undertaken in 1999 and 2000 by Jason Ur, the approximate size of Hamoukar’s lower town is about 85 hectares (220 acres), hence



*Fig. 3. Plan of main mound of Hamoukar with survey area*

one of the largest of the late third-millennium B.C. cities in northern Syria. The idea of undertaking a geophysical survey on this site was immediately appealing. In March 2006 the University of Chicago's Women's Board invited me to submit a proposal for a season of geophysical work in 2007, which they generously decided to fund.

We were fortunate to be able to enlist Ann Donkin from the Department of Classical Studies, Anthropology and Archaeology at the University of Akron (Ohio) to work as our geophysical scientist (fig. 2). Having worked on sites in Turkey, Egypt, India, and the United States, Ann has an extensive background from sites in various geographical, geological, and geomorphological settings. Despite the general promise of success, we remained nervous about our prospect. Geophysical work had been undertaken on a number of sites in northern Syria and southeastern Turkey with varied amounts of success. Work at the sites of Titriş (Turkey) and Tell Chuera (Syria) produced spectacular maps, but on other sites local preconditions only allowed disappointing results. At Hamoukar we had opted for magnetometry due to its affordability and speed, though we were aware that conditions were not perfect. Magnetic disturbances could render much of our work obsolete. A major part of its lower town is covered by a modern village, hence iron is omnipresent. We therefore opted to first try our luck in the southeastern part of the lower town, which nowadays is covered with fields (fig. 3). Excavations in 2001 had revealed large, well-built houses in this area that were close to the present-day surface and that seemingly had been destroyed by force. But even here we encountered the perils of the modern-day world in the form of metal wires, soda cans, broken plowshares, and even the occasional car battery — it never ceases to amaze what people throw into their fields as fertilizers nowadays. Electric lines and telephone poles also precluded work in certain areas. For that reason I was not too optimistic when Ann, after a first day's work, downloaded the data onto her laptop and produced a first map. I squinted and looked, thought I saw something in the pattern of coarse dots, but it might just as well have been nothing. As I soon learned, however, I suffered from a close-up-view. A settlement layout cannot be understood from looking at one square. Gradually, as Ann kept coming back with more data every day, the area covered expanded and, as we kept on zooming out, a clearer picture emerged (figs. 3–4). Large building blocks, well laid out and separated by wide streets, became



Fig. 4. Close-up of survey area map, highlighting streets, city blocks, city gates, and the city wall

discernible. A double line along the edge of the settlement indicated the presence of a city wall, possibly preceded by a rampart. The city wall itself seems to have several gates, which lined up with streets on the inside as well as hollow ways on the outside. The width of the streets themselves is noticeable — one of them appears to exceed 10 m (33 ft)! So far, our surveyors covered an area of 7 hectares of the lower town. About twice as much remains easily accessible, then the tricky part of working within the village will begin. With Syria's fast-growing population it is no surprise that this village continues to grow, but its expansion happens at a devastating cost to archaeology. Modern buildings may not destroy ancient architecture below them entirely, but they render fieldwork impossible. Those areas of the sites that currently are under agricultural cultivation are at no lesser risk, since archaeological layers are plowed out, diminishing the size of the surviving cultural deposit more and more every year. We hope that in the near future a decree by the Department of Antiquities will make it illegal to add new houses and protect the remainder of the site.

While Ann, together with her assistant Theresa Ulrich (University of Akron), continued to chase buried walls on site, the rest of us settled into the house for our study season. Pottery formed the largest backlog. Tate Paulette tackled the materials from his own work in third-millennium B.C. levels in Area C, a large public building complex investigated in 2000, 2001, and 2006. Salam, together with Khalid Abu Jayyab (Damascus University) and Ibrahim al-Alaya (Aleppo

University), concentrated on the pottery from the Southern Extension, which also forms the core of her dissertation at Cambridge University. I turned my attention to the vast amounts of pottery from Area B, the burned complexes on the High Mound that had been destroyed by warfare around 3500 B.C. Lamy Khalidi (University of Nice, France) returned for her continued analysis of the obsidian tools from the Southern Extension. Kate Grossmann studied the animal bones (fig. 5). In her free time, Ann cataloged thousands of unregistered fragments of clay sealings from the 2005 and 2006 seasons. Fahd Sbahi (Aleppo University) and Theresa Ulrich, finally, took on the thankless but necessary task of describing and weighing thousands of sling bullets.



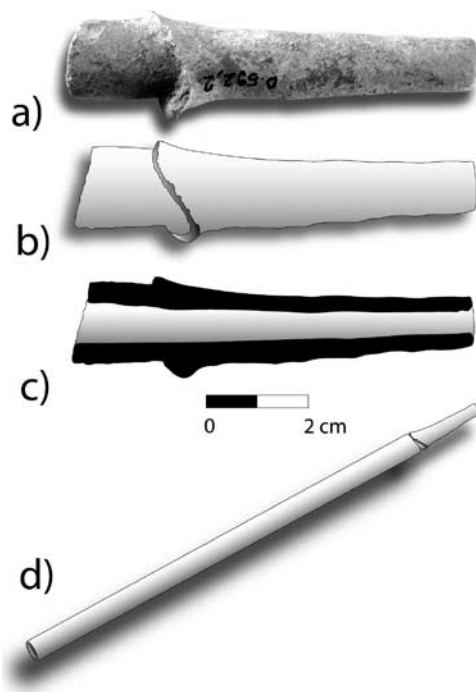
Fig. 5. Kate Grossmann's table with faunal samples

The great advantage of study seasons is that they provide time to carefully look at materials that were brought in during past seasons. You may think that you know what came in, but you only remember what you truly know. In this respect I was in for a surprise during the first few days of our season when Gil Stein, the Director of the Oriental Institute, joined us for a site visit. Having Gil out there was a great asset — his vast knowledge of Late Chalcolithic pottery, in particular the ceramic corpus from Hacinebi Tepe, his former site at the Euphrates in southeastern Turkey, greatly benefitted us. As he was opening a bag of Uruk-period potsherds he suddenly exclaimed: "Oh look — you have *tuyeres*!" *Tuyeres* are blow pipes commonly used in metal working. These pipes, as such, were perishable, having been made of reed, but their ceramic mouth pieces often survived (fig. 6). In a pile of pot sherds a *tuyere* is easily mixed up with a vessel spout. It's not only what you know — it's what you know intrinsically. Soon we noticed more and more *tuyeres* among "spouts" in our pottery. This certainly was an

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exciting discovery. Large obsidian manufactures in our Southern Extension, dating between 4500 and 4000 B.C., had led us to conclude that export-oriented tool production played an important factor in the formation of Hamoukar's first proto-city. The city on the main mound destroyed by warfare, however, dated to about 3500 B.C., hence significantly later. We assumed that the destruction had been caused by the expansion of the southern Mesopotamian Uruk culture in its quest to control trade routes and traded commodities in northern Syria and southern Turkey. By the mid-fourth millennium B.C., however, copper had eclipsed obsidian as a primary material for tool production. Hamoukar is on a trade route leading from southern Mesopotamia to the southern Turkish copper mines (Ergani Maden) that had been exploited early on, so by 3500 B.C. copper trade and early metallurgy could have superseded obsidian tool production at Hamoukar. With no evidence for a local metal industry, however, this explanation remains hypothetical. The discovery of *tuyeres* in our pottery assemblage provided the first tangible proof of its existence. Only days later more evidence showed up when I examined a number of items from Area B registered as "crude clay dishes," which turned out to be crucibles used for metal melting (fig. 7). Due to the proximity of the Area B architecture to the site's surface, metal objects from this area generally are poorly preserved. In a sounding into lower levels of Area B undertaken in 2005, however, we found a jar that contained three bronze disks and a piece of silver wire (fig. 8). The jar had been hidden away in a gap between two walls. Its ingredients are most likely to be explained as raw materials, hence this might have been a jeweller's kit, for which parallels are known from later contexts at sites such as Nippur and Tell Asmar. As yet, the evidence for metallurgical work at Hamoukar remains patchy and circumstantial, but we hope to address this interesting aspect of early technological development more in the near future.

More often than not a season requires scaling back on ambitious plans. In rare cases, however, results can be achieved where none had been anticipated at all. Common wisdom about magnetometry tells us that it will only work on single-period contexts. High mounds with their complex multi-layer stratigraphy do not lend themselves to this kind of work. During a site visit to Tell Chuera, a large Early Bronze Age site to the west of the Balikh, I was surprised, therefore, to see that their magnetometrist had undertaken extensive work on this site's high mound. Chuera's architecture is characterized by strong continuity in architectural layout over centuries,



**Figure 6.** Tuyere (blow pipe used during metal working): a) photograph; b) drawing; c) section; d) reconstruction of a full blow pipe. Area B; date: 3500 B.C.



**Figure 7.** Crucible used for metal melting. Area B; date: 3500 B.C.





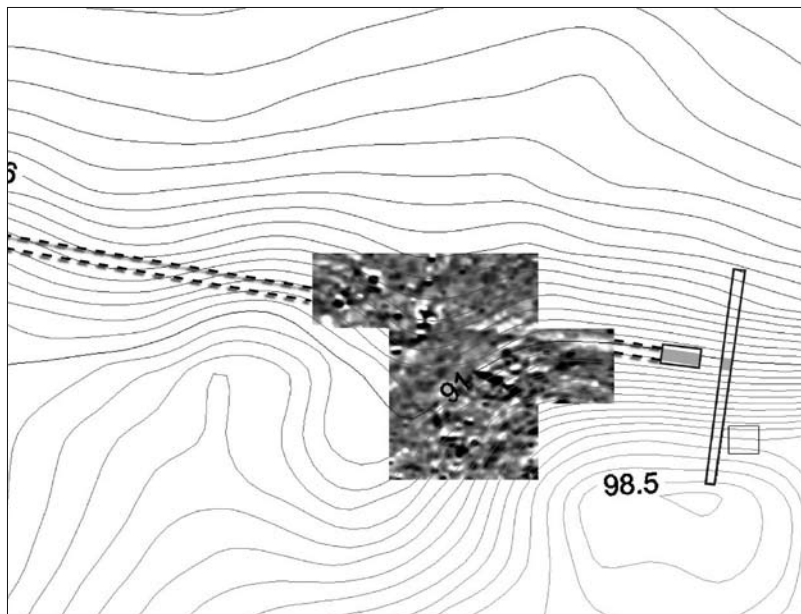
**Figure 8.** Jeweller's kit: copper disks and silver wire. Area B; date: ca. 3800 B.C.

a phenomenon that we have not observed at Hamoukar so far. Nonetheless, the thought of “chasing” one particular large feature on Hamoukar’s high mound with magnetometry started shaping up — the Late Chalcolithic city wall (fig. 9). We first noticed this wall, a 3 m wide feature, in our step trench in 1999 — one of the first pieces of evidence of urban formation processes on this site that happened independently from southern Mesopotamia and long before the conquest by the Uruk culture. If we could follow this wall all around the high mound it would give us an idea of how large the earliest city of Hamoukar really was. The distribution of fourth-millennium B.C. pottery on the site indicated a size of approximately 16 hectares, but slope wash and movements of archaeological deposits during later construction

events could have distorted the picture significantly. If we could follow the city wall, however, there would be no need for approximation — not only would we know the city’s exact size but it would also allow us to see if future trenches should be inside or outside of it. Ann agreed on running a few survey squares to the west of the step trench. Never has there been a better return for an afternoon’s work — the line of the city wall showed up crystal clear (fig. 10). It appears to align with the northwestern edge of the high mound, suggesting that Hamoukar’s mid-fourth-millennium B.C. city was nearly as large as the present-day high mound. We hope to be able to add to this plan successively over the next few years.



**Figure 9.** View of the Late Chalcolithic city wall on the high mound, as excavated in the 1999 step trench. Area A; date: ca. 3800 B.C.



*Figure 10. Magnetometric map of Late Chalcolithic city wall west of step trench on the high mound*

As I am writing this we are almost ready to return to the field — how quickly a year goes by....

We are working on a bigger intermediate report, which hopefully will go to press before the end of the year. This season we will continue with magnetometrical work to follow the plan of the third-millennium B.C. city. Excavations by Kate Grossmann and Tate Paulette in these areas will provide the necessary empirical check of what the magnetometer has indicated. The main objective of this season, however, will be excavation. In the Southern Extension we plan to expose several obsidian workshops. The burnt city in Area B on the high mound will require years of detailed work to come, and we look forward to more exciting results from this area. As in previous years, none of our work would have been possible without the generous support from various institutions, first and foremost the Oriental Institute. The University of Chicago's Women's Board has a long history of supporting Oriental Institute projects at an early and critical stage, often before long-term funding through a granting agency could be sought. With our geophysical work at Hamoukar, which they so generously sponsored, I hope to have justified their faith in our project. As in previous years, numerous private donors have renewed their financial support in 2007. In this context, I would like to thank first and foremost Howard Hallengren (New York), Alan Brodie (Chicago), and Carlotta Maher (Chicago). For the 2008 season, generous donations were made by Cathy Brehm, Toni Smith, and Virginia O'Neill (all Chicago). Raising public money for fieldwork is more than difficult, so the continued support of enthusiastic individuals remains essential for our work. The Syrian Department of Antiquities, the Ministry of Culture, and the Syrian Embassy in Washington, D.C., have continued to support our work in every possible way, for which we are very grateful. Last, but by no means least, I would like to thank our wonderful Syrian colleagues who have been working with us for years so faithfully and enthusiastically. At a time when the relationship between Syria and the United States is marred on a political level by many misgivings, the Hamoukar Expedition currently can be considered one of the most successful ongoing Syrian-American joint ventures. I look forward to working together at this wonderful and unique site for many years to come.

## ISLAMIC ARCHAEOLOGY AND THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE

Donald Whitcomb

A description of Islamic archaeology at the Oriental Institute was first published in *The Oriental Institute Annual Report 2002–2003*. The subject has now grown throughout the academic world, as well as here; not that one might claim a five-year plan, but a review of this progress in a relatively new discipline reveals some accomplishments during these years.

The Oriental Institute describes itself as being devoted to the art and archaeology of the ancient Near East, and yet field projects as early as the 1930s included Islamic subjects, tangential to work at Alishar Tepe, the Amuq, Nippur, Khirbat Karak, and Medinat Habu (Jeme), and the special focus of projects such as Schmidt's work at Rayy and Istakhr; Adams' work in the Diyala, Abu Sarifa, and Jundi Shapur; and my efforts at Quseir al-Qadim, Luxor, Aqaba (Ayla), and Hadir Qinnasrin. These projects contributed Islamic artifacts to the Museum's large holdings of Arabic papyri, bookbindings, and tombstones, originally on display in Breasted's "Persian

and Islamic Hall." Gradually, the collections within the Oriental Institute Museum are being tabulated through the help of its registrars, Helen McDonald and Susan Allison. This museum holds an impressive range of excavated Islamic materials from the entire "Fertile Crescent," a collection that may well surpass any other museum in the United States. The case may be easily advanced that the Oriental Institute stands as unique as a center for Islamic Archaeology.

The Oriental Institute has played an increasing role in the rapidly growing body of evidence and theory in this discipline. There is a growing awareness of the necessity for studying medieval archaeology in the Near East. On the one hand, Islamic materials provide a connector to the past, showing the continuation of most ancient accomplishments unique to the Near East (fig. 1). On the other, the Islamic era provides a connector to the present, making archaeology relevant and important to modern Middle Eastern studies. Perhaps no one has better exemplified this potential at the Oriental Institute than Robert McC. Adams; I have attempted to recognize the accomplishments of his research in an article, "Islamic Archaeology and the 'Land Behind Baghdad,'" for his festschrift presented in 2007.



Figure 1. A stucco caryatid from the early Islamic bath at Khirbat al-Mafjar

A statement on Islamic studies in the University of Chicago listed as one of its prime aspects the field of Islamic Archaeology. Within the organization of NELC, the discipline of Archaeology is defined as having two separate tracks, the ancient Near East and Islamic, the latter with its own degree requirements as demanding, if not more so, than its ancient counterpart. Four students have received their doctorates in Islamic Archaeology, the most recent two with honors. The current group of students plays an active role in the Museum, publications, and workshops within the Oriental Institute.

## ISLAMIC ARCHAEOLOGY

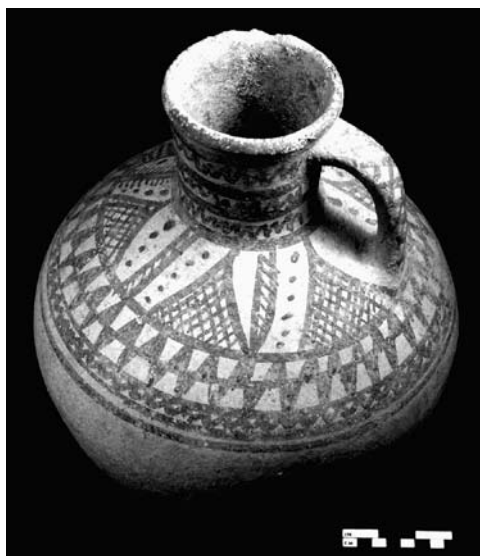
The growth of Islamic activities in the Oriental Institute may be seen in a few highlights during the last five years:

- The first Oriental Institute Seminar (actually a proto-seminar of the now-annual event) on Changing Social Identity with the Spread of Islam: Archaeological Perspectives (2004)
- The first permanent display of Islamic archaeology (artifacts from the city of Istakhr) in the reorganized Robert and Deborah Aliber Persian Gallery, and Islamic artifacts in the Dr. Norman Solhkhah Family Assyrian Empire Gallery and the Robert F. Picken Family Nubia Gallery
- The accession of a substantial teaching collection from the excavations at Fustat, the site of early Islamic Cairo (2007)
- The accession of a fine collection of Middle Islamic ceramics from southern Iran donated by the ethnographers Reingold and Erika Loeffler (2007; fig. 2)
- A temporary exhibit on the nature of Islamic archaeology, featuring impressive glazed ceramics, *Daily Life Ornamented: The Medieval Persian City of Rayy* (2007, with Tanya Treptow; fig. 3)
- A temporary exhibit *European Cartographers and the Ottoman World, 1500–1750: Maps from the Collection of O. J. Sopranos* (2007)
- And, finally, an Oriental Institute Travel Program of Islamic Spain and Syria led by Clemens Reichel (2008)

### Ancient and Islamic

This changing nature of the Oriental Institute means that the time seems appropriate to consider an explicit association within Near Eastern studies of the “Ancient and Islamic.” There is a natural attraction and correlation between study of the ancient Near East and the Islamic Middle East. One sees a common pattern in serious centers of Near Eastern studies: where programs include archaeological projects, there are always Islamic excavations alongside the more usual ancient fieldwork. This pattern of research activity may be recognized as a new paradigm, the study of the ancient Near East and the Islamic Middle East as natural correlates within the discipline of archaeology.

There is an important difference in the two disciplines. As I explored in a plenary paper at the latest International Congress for the Archaeology of the Ancient Near East (ICAANE), there is an evident lack of definition of Islamic Archaeology in the minds of almost all historians, many other archaeologists, and not a few of those claiming to belong to this field. The forging of an archaeological identity is enhanced by acceptance in that congress, which is the premier focus where national directors of archaeology, archaeologists from each country,



*Figure 2. A painted Middle Islamic jar from Saqaveh in the Loeffler Collection*

and fellow archaeologists commingle and exchange information. There is an irony that, in this congress and many archaeological centers, the two late-comers to the archaeology of the ancient Near East are the prehistoric and Islamic, the chronological peripheries.

One might close with a note on the paper at ICAANE by Dr. Iman Saca, a prehistorian and former Research Associate at the Oriental Institute. She made an eloquent plea for consideration of “community archaeology” as an essential aspect of the future of archaeology; this would mean the forging of a new discipline and identity in fieldwork and its interpretations, particularly in museums and in education. The field of Islamic Archaeology is a natural aspect of this future and the Oriental Institute is in a position to lead in this direction by making ancient and Islamic an explicit program for its future identity.



*Figure 3. Design of a turquoise glazed tile from the Iranian city of Rayy*

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## KERKENES DAĞ PROJECT

Scott Branting

<http://www.kerkenes.metu.edu.tr/>

The 2007 season at Kerkenes Dağ marked the fifteenth consecutive season of exploration by the project at this massive late Iron Age Phrygian city in central Turkey. In a day and age where funding cycles are focused on short-term projects that cover a handful of years, the results this project has attained is a testament to the benefits that can be reaped from a longer-term commitment to research at a site such as this. Such a commitment to long-term research has always been a distinctive aspect of the Oriental Institute. In this season alone the highlights of research included the mapping of the entire plan of the enormous Palatial Complex, the testing through excavation of new computer simulation-based methods for understanding ancient cities, extensive work on reconstructing the unique architectural stone elements uncovered in previous seasons in the Monumental Entranceway to the Palatial Complex, and even a visit by the History Channel.

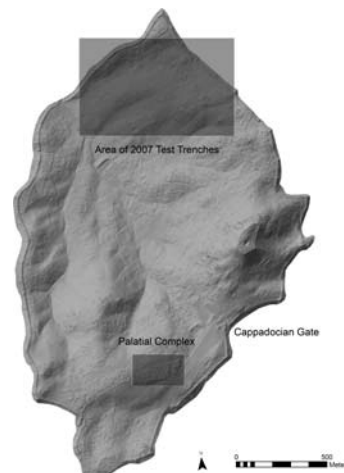


Figure 1. Locations of research at Kerkenes Dağ in 2007

### Geophysical Investigations

The Palatial Complex has been the focus of survey and excavations over the past decade. Located in the upper, southern portion of the city, it is larger than any of the urban blocks, measuring ca. 75 m in width  $\times$  250 m in length, a total area just under 3½ football fields in size (fig. 1). Its size, along with the remarkable results of the excavations within it and the simulations around it, has shown it to be a key locale within the city. What has remained unknown until now is the full plan of its internal buildings and courtyards beyond what has been revealed through limited excavation. The use of the British Institute of Archaeology at Ankara's Geoscans RM15 electrical resistance meter, tried in a small test area of this complex last year (see *Annual Report 2006–2007*,

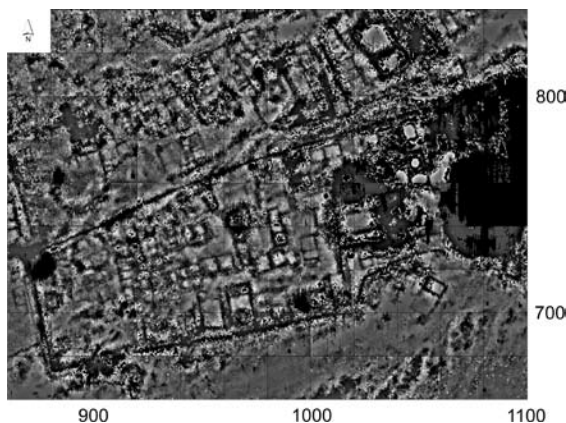


Figure 2. The results of the resistivity survey in the area of the Palatial Complex

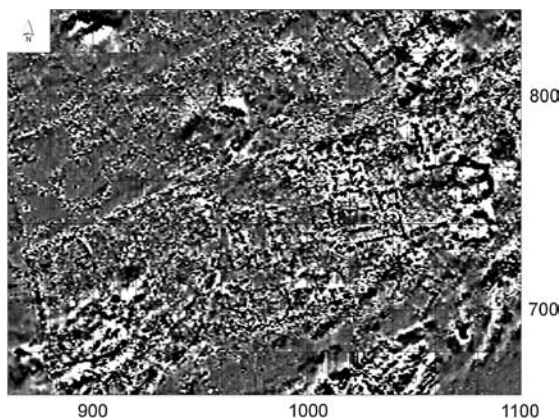
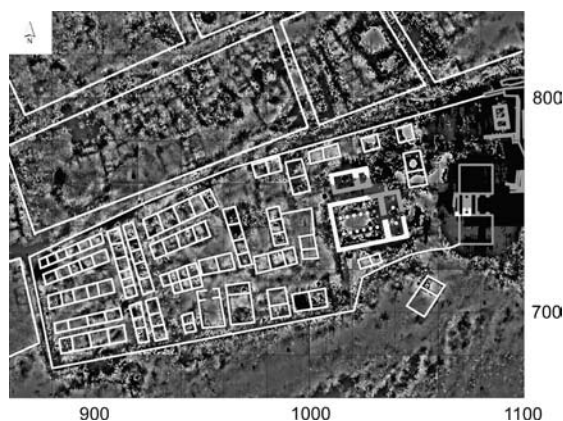


Figure 3. Magnetometry data collected in the palatial area in previous seasons. The interior walls and structures are much less clear in the magnetometry data than they are in the resistivity data



**Figure 4.** Interpretive plan of the Palatial Complex developed and ground-truthed in the field on the GPS-enabled tablet PC from the available data sets. Walls in white are unexcavated, while those in gray have been uncovered and confirmed through excavation

are several rows of small rooms in the back of the Palatial Complex. Based on excavated parallels elsewhere in the city, these may have been used for storage. In addition, the two side-by-side large megaron-like structures near the middle of the southern wall of the complex are particularly intriguing. Could they be the places where the king and queen slept?

The new interpretive plan was checked against observable features on the surface of the ground using a tablet PC computer and attached Global Positioning System (GPS) receiver (fig. 5). The use of the tablet PC has several notable advantages over the handheld computer and GPS used last year for ground-truthing. The tablet computer can not only provide the real-time location for the researcher within the imagery, but it makes drawing directly on the interpretive plan or data displayed on the screen much easier. The tablet PC can also run a full-featured version of the Geographic Information System (GIS) software packages allowing real-time integration or re-processing of the different data sets and maps at any given location. This allows for much greater control in interpreting the data in the field and a more powerful and integrative plan to be drawn than was possible with old paper-based methods.

## Excavations

Excavations were undertaken in 2007 in support of three different initiatives: validating the computer simulations of ancient pedestrian transportation, elucidating architectural details in the Cappadocian Gate, and recovering geomagnetic material samples from two previously excavated trenches.

The transportation simulation initiative is a pioneering way to try to understand how the builders and inhabitants of the ancient city at Kerkenes Dağ designed and made use of its ancient spaces and interacted with one another. It is an excellent example of innovations that can develop within the context of a long-term research project. The wealth of geophysical data collected during the first ten years of the project has enabled a complete reconstruction of the plan of the urban block and streets throughout the city. Using the streets and places known from the geophysics as a base map, simulations can be run within the computer of virtual human beings walking around within this reconstructed urban landscape. The models for how these virtual human beings move are drawn from a variety of studies in the medical fields involving human biomechanics and can

pp. 68–70), demonstrated the potential for the resistivity survey to provide just such a detailed internal plan even in this high and dryer area of the city (figs. 2–3).

Over a period of fifteen days in May, a total area of 42,000 m<sup>2</sup> (4.2 ha) was covered at a sampling density of two readings per meter. The imagery produced from this survey reveals not only the full extent of most of the buried structures within the Palatial Complex, but also significant portions of the plans of adjacent urban blocks. In contrast to the data collected for this area in previous years using magnetometry, the resistivity data reveals much more detail of the internal structures within this complex. An interpretive plan was drawn from the resistivity data (fig. 4); among the numerous items of note

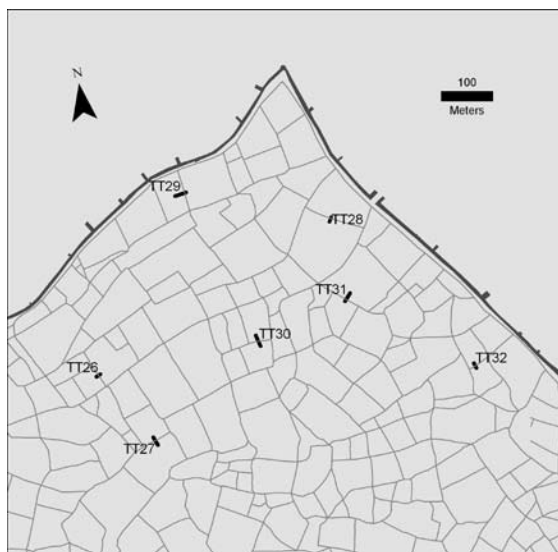


*Figure 5. Ground-truthing with the GPS-enabled tablet PC. The GPS allows users to see themselves in real time within the imagery (a small gray circle in the center) and where they are relative to buried structures or streets. The tablet computer also allows users to draw directly on the screen to produce plans of the urban architecture in the field. This same system also works in a vehicle, just like an onboard car navigation system, to allow project members to drive along the network of buried city streets*

even be broken down by age and sex of the individual. The power of this new simulation method is that it can provide a way, based on what we know of how people move and the urban space that they created, to glimpse the more dynamic actions and activities of its inhabitants that are the life of a city.

On the simulation side of this new method, the past year saw the continued development of SHULGI, an open-source, agent-based software package that will make these pedestrian transportation simulation methods freely available to researchers around the world. The program is being developed in partnership with Mark Altaweel at Argonne National Laboratory and should be completed within two years, depending on funding. Requests are already coming in from researchers at a number of archaeological sites around the world, including Pompeii, to make use of SHULGI in their own research. It has also attracted the attention of modern city planners who wish to use it to design new cities and neighborhoods that optimize the use of pedestrian traffic as a way to minimize the need for automobiles. Initial funding to get SHULGI started has been provided by a grant from the Joint Theory Institute.

However, there is a need to find ways to test the validity of the results of these computer simulations and to show their usefulness in matching ancient traffic patterns. Validation tests have already been done to show that the simulations match modern pedestrian traffic patterns quite well. For past pedestrian traffic, there is the added problem of not being able to observe where people are walking, since the people who walked these streets are long since gone. To get past this difficulty, a method of analyzing the ancient street soil matrix for compaction and other soil properties was developed and tested briefly in 2004. Now that active excavations in the Monumental Entranceway to the Palatial Complex have finished, further trenches can be excavated to continue this testing and validation of the simulation results.



*Figure 6. The locations of the Transportation Trenches excavated along ancient city streets in 2007*

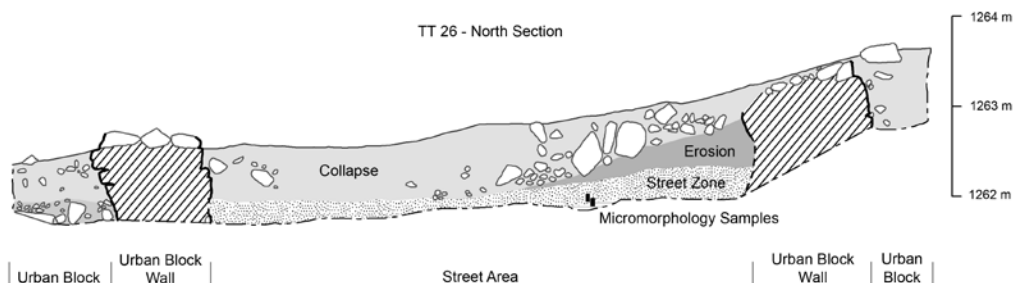


In 2004, three test Transportation Trenches (TT) were excavated across three different city streets in the vicinity of the Palatial Complex. Loose soil and micromorphology samples were collected from the street in each trench and were analyzed by the Charles McBurney Laboratory for Geoarchaeology at the University of Cambridge. The breakdown of the soil from the streets and evidence of compaction correlated extremely well with the results of the computer simulations. However, a mere three trenches from the same area of the city, no matter how promising the results, is too small a sample to statistically validate the simulations or to draw broader conclusions. Seven more transportation test trenches were therefore excavated in 2007 as a part of a multi-year program to expand the testing of the simulations against the data contained in the soils of the ancient streets.

These seven 2007 test trenches, named sequentially TT26 to TT32, were excavated along streets in the northern third of the city (fig. 6). They were situated within the plan of the city using the real-time GPS-enabled tablet PC, which was set up in the project Landrover as a homemade version of a GPS car navigation system. Using this system, the Landrover could be driven down the buried ancient city streets, complete with turn directions on how to get where one wanted to go. Each of the trenches was 1 m wide and varied in length from 9.0 m to 23.5 m (fig. 7). They were positioned to completely expose the street area between two adjacent urban block walls, as can be seen in the section from TT26 (fig. 8). Soil samples were collected just as had been done in 2004. However, in the case of quite a number of the test trenches this year, the unpaved street surfaces were not precisely identifiable due to increased erosion. This is one area of the sampling strategy that will continue to be improved upon in future years. Pottery, bone, and a few metal items were also collected from the trenches, along with floral and faunal material recovered via flotation. This includes one very nice double-looped copper alloy pin, of a type found previously in the city. As additional trenches are excavated in the years ahead these materials will help provide distributional maps of changes in consumption and discard across the city.



*Figure 7. Excavation in progress in Transportation Trench 29. A typical transportation trench takes just under a week to fully excavate*



*Figure 8. The northern section of Transportation Trench 26, typical of the trenches excavated this year. The section shows the street area running between the two urban block walls and the later collapse of the walls into the street after the destruction of the city. Micromorphological samples were taken as marked from the street zone since this particular trench lacked the well-formed street surface encountered elsewhere*

## KERKENES DAĞ

In addition to the primary work on the transportation test trenches, limited work was also undertaken over two days in the Cappadocian Gate to elucidate details in the plan of the gate for the publication of the upcoming monograph. Geomagnetic samples were also collected one morning in two trenches excavated in 1996 and 2004. Both trenches yielded floor contexts that were heavily burnt in the final fiery destruction of the city. The samples were taken and are being analyzed by Nurettin Kaymakçı and Pinar Ertepinar of Middle Eastern Technical University, along with similar samples they have collected from archaeological projects throughout Turkey. They are hoping to be able to develop a technique for establishing the dates of sites in Turkey based on the changing location of magnetic north through time.

### Conservation and Restoration

As anticipated, the new transportation test trenches yielded pottery, animal bone, seeds, and fragments of metal, but very few objects requiring subsequent conservation. This is precisely what had been hoped for so that the conservation staff could focus primarily on the continued conservation and restoration of the incredible stonework from the excavations in the Monumental Entrance to the Palatial Complex (figs. 9–10). The best exemplars of each size bolster block that were mended and recorded last season were gap-filled and photographed as part of the ongoing restoration program this year. Work also progressed on the intriguing semi-ionic idols that emerged so spectacularly from the thousands of fragments of stone at the end of last season. Numerous additional joins were found that fit into the growing number of exemplars of these idols. The most complete of these exemplars were drawn and photographed, though additional work on the reconstruction and conservation of these unique pieces will continue into 2008 and beyond.

Throughout the summer, work also progressed on completing the stone workshop building that will provide the facilities needed for working on the long-term conservation of the architectural pieces from the monumental entrance. It will also provide cover year round for the numerous fragments of stone brought down from the palatial complex during the 2003 through 2005 seasons.

Several additional pieces of worked stone identical to that of the stela from the Cappadocia Gate were also identified and recovered this season from the surface of an area of the site just inside the gate. Some of these fit directly into the head portion of this semi-ionic Phrygian idol. Others, including a single large piece, are impossible to fit anywhere on the existing stela. These may be evidence of additional stelae that would have been located in that same general area.



*Figure 9. Conservator Noël Siver and assistant Tiffin Thompson restoring bolsters from the Monumental Entranceway to the Palatial Complex*



*Figure 10. Illustrator Ben Claasz Coockson drawing the best-preserved semi-ionic idol from the Palatial Complex*

## The History Channel

The importance of this large Phrygian city and the growing popular interest in the archaeology undertaken at Kerkenes Dağ was evidenced by a visit from a camera crew for the History Channel's program *Digging for the Truth*. A portion of an episode on the Phrygians was filmed on location during the last week following the excavations. While the episode never aired due to internal issues with the host at the History Channel, it does show the notoriety that this long-term project has gained.



*Figure 11. Installing drip-irrigation systems, such as this one in the garden of the excavation house, is a way to help reduce the strain on limited local water resources both for the excavation and in the village of Şahmuratlı. Facilitating the acquisition of systems like this, though a micro-loan program for farmers working in fields around the village, has been a major focus of the Kerkenes Eco-Center in conjunction with the Şahmuratlı village cooperative over the past two years*

## Kerkenes Eco-Center

Solar drying and cooking, along with the expansion of the drip irrigation program, were the main foci in 2007 of the Kerkenes Eco-Center Project (fig. 11). This sister project, directed alongside the archaeological one, works in tandem with the Şahmuratlı village cooperative on rural sustainability projects that benefit the people who so graciously host us each year. The organic farming continues as well, with the farmers involved giving talks on their experiences to rural audiences in various parts of Turkey.

## Acknowledgments

The Kerkenes Dağ Project is a joint undertaking between the Oriental Institute and the British Institute of Archaeology in Ankara, co-directed by Dr. Geoffrey Summers of the Middle Eastern Technical University (METU) in Ankara and myself. The Kerkenes Eco-Center Project is directed by Françoise Summers of METU. Our thanks go to the Director and staff of the General Directorate of Cultural Assets and Museums, our official representatives İsmail Sarıpınar and Erdal Yiğit, and the Director and staff of the Yozgat Museum. Our principal sponsors for this year were the Oriental Institute, the British Institute of Archaeology at Ankara, Middle East Technical University, the Joint Theory Institute of Argonne National Laboratory and the University of Chicago, the Archeocommunity Foundation, the Joukowsky Family Foundation, the Charlotte Bonham Carter Trust, Toreador Turkey, Erdoğan Muştrafa Akdağ Eğitim ve Kültür Vakfı, Yibitaş/Lafarge, Yenigün, Andante Travel, John Notz, Yozgat Çimento, Hayri Yıldız, Chevron Texaco, and anonymous donors. A full list of all participants and sponsors can be found on our Web site.

## MODELING ANCIENT SETTLEMENT SYSTEMS (MASS)

**Benjamin Studevent-Hickman and John Christiansen**

The year 2007–2008 marked the sixth and final year of the Oriental Institute’s Modeling Ancient Settlement Systems (MASS) project. In collaboration with Argonne National Laboratory, the Oriental Institute and the University of Chicago create agent-based computer models of settlements (and groups of settlements) in Bronze Age Mesopotamia to study their reactions to and development under prescribed conditions. One specific goal of the project is to compare the rise and fall of cities and states in northern and southern Mesopotamia as a function of these regions’ distinct landscapes. To that end, MASS models incorporate a broad range of social, economic, and ecological data available from texts, archaeological remains, satellite imagery, geomorphological analyses, and ethnographic studies. A final monograph, entitled *Modeling Mesopotamia: Exploring the Dynamics of Ancient Society* (University of Chicago Press), will describe the project, with its results, in full detail. MASS is funded by the “Biocomplexity in the Environment” program of the National Science Foundation (Grant no. 0216548).

### General Project Developments and the MASS Team

With the project in its final year, much of our effort has been devoted to completing the monograph. Each chapter has both primary and contributing authors; to date, several team members have submitted their contributions to the respective primary authors, and several of those authors have submitted drafts of their completed chapters to the editors, who are also the Principal Investigators of the project (see below). A draft of the final monograph will be sent to University of Chicago Press in the late summer or early fall.

The interaction of team members at the Oriental Institute with those at Argonne has continued at a productive rate. Tate Paulette, a graduate student in Mesopotamian Archaeology at the University of Chicago and the principal liaison between the two institutions, has made routine trips to Argonne to coordinate team efforts and supply data to the computer programmers. His efforts have been invaluable for the development of the Graphical User Interface (or GUI), which is the primary means by which users access the model, and for the ongoing development of the southern model. As for the programmers, MASS has bid farewell to our two undergraduate students, Robert Law II and Nolan Frausto, who have moved on to pursue their careers in other areas. Their efforts will be missed, and all of us at MASS wish them well. Since their leaving, MASS has hired three new undergraduate programmers — Adam Baker, Joseph Flesh, and Sarah Wise — who will see the project to its completion, at the end of July. Further editing of the monograph by other team members will extend slightly beyond this date.

As of June 2007, the members of the MASS team are as follows:

#### Principal Investigators:

McGuire Gibson, Oriental Institute, University of Chicago (PI)

Tony Wilkinson, Durham University (Co-PI)

John Christiansen, Argonne National Laboratory (Co-PI)

#### Senior Members:

Scott Branting, Oriental Institute, University of Chicago

David Schloen, Oriental Institute, University of Chicago

Christopher Woods, Oriental Institute, University of Chicago

**Computer Modeling:**

Mark Altaweel, Argonne National Laboratory; University of Chicago; University of Alaska at Anchorage  
 Adam Baker, University of Chicago  
 Joseph Flesh, University of Chicago  
 Sarah Wise, University of Chicago

**Research Associate/Post-doctoral Fellow:**

Benjamin Studevent-Hickman: Oriental Institute, University of Chicago

**Graduate Students:**

Tate Paulette, University of Chicago (Principal Oriental Institute-Argonne Liaison)  
 Dan Mahoney, University of Chicago

**Consultants:**

John Sanders, Oriental Institute, University of Chicago  
 Hermann Gasche: University of Ghent

**Active Members:**

Carrie Hritz, Washington University, St. Louis (formerly Research Associate/Post-doctoral Fellow)  
 Jason Ur, Harvard University  
 Magnus Widell, University of Liverpool (formerly Oriental Institute Research Associate/Post-doctoral Fellow)

**Computer Modeling (with John Christiansen)**

The MASS group has continued the previous year's work in providing new or expanded model formulations of social dynamics above the level of individual households and settlements. The following specific simulation elements were among those designed, implemented, and tested during the current project year.

- Software objects representing territorial states have been created and tested in small kingdoms controlling between one and two dozen settlements. As of the end of the review period, these models include representations of the following:
  - Taxation: This primarily takes the form of a grain tax imposed at harvest time. States collect and maintain grain surpluses in their granaries, which reside in the settlements they control. The grain supports their extended bureaucracies and provides a buffer against poor harvests (see below).
  - Increase in the proportion of non-primary producer households (NPPs) in a state's settlements: NPPs are defined as households in which the principal livelihood is gained by members engaging in activities other than farming or herding, such as trades, crafts, or services. NPPs are relatively undifferentiated in the current model design, but they can act as reasonable proxies for elements of state bureaucracy and vocational specialization, especially in that they require settlement systems to boost agricultural production to generate sufficient surplus to feed this additional, "non-producing" segment of the population.
  - State internal security: The initial model here represents state response to internal food crises (e.g., localized famines). Leaders of territorial states monitor their settlements for signs of instability and unrest due to food shortages and may, as a result,

## MODELING ANCIENT SETTLEMENT SYSTEMS

either release portions of the state grain reserves or mobilize relief efforts (by transporting grain from other, less-afflicted settlements, for example). The effectiveness of the state varies widely between our northern and southern simulation scenarios, owing in large part to the flat land and low-friction network of canals in the south, both of which make transportation much, much easier.

- Leadership succession: Social mechanisms for determining succession at the death of a ruler, as well as the option for “forcible removal” of ruling households (usually by better-favored members of the elite), has been added to the simulation.
- In order to support our new regional-scale studies, the simulation has been extended to model interchange of goods and services among nearby communities as a logical extension of existing, household-level, stress-coping mechanisms — the most important of which are kinship based. This mechanism presents a finer-grained, distributed, kin-based alternative to the more state-level stress-response described above. Both mechanisms can operate concurrently in the simulations.
- A simulation representation of social inequality has been fully implemented.
- Models have been implemented to represent the social dynamics of patron-client relationships. A key and surprisingly challenging component of this effort was assessing the ways in which individual, household-level, stress-coping responses are modulated by the presence of inter-household, patron-client bonds — and by the relative welfare of the other households in a household’s patronage network.
- Private ownership of land has been added to the simulation, as an alternative to the communal *mushá* form of land tenure. This addition required an extension of the simulation’s inheritance logic, which includes a determination of the beneficiaries’ shares, and of the mechanisms by which households acquire new land.

### Outreach and Education

The full list of publications and talks by members of the MASS team is far too long to present here. Among the highlights, we would note the following:

- M. Altaweel, *The Imperial Landscape of Ashur: Settlement and Land Use in the Assyrian Heartland*, a monograph (Orientalverlag).
- J. Christensen, “A Simulation Framework for Exploring Socioecological Dynamics of Ancient and Modern Settlement Systems,” a talk given at the Institute of Advanced Study (IAS) Workshop, “Modelling Social Behavior,” Durham University (UK), November 2–4, 2007.
- T. Paulette, “Modeling Bronze Age Northern Mesopotamia: New Layers of Complexity.” C. Hritz, (for Carrie Hritz, Magnus Widell, Benjamin Studevent-Hickman, McGuire Gibson, Tony Wilkinson, and John Christiansen), “Modeling Bronze Age Southern Mesopotamia: Initial Results” — talks given at the session “Parallel Worlds: Interdisciplinary Agent-Based Models of Socioecological Processes and Complexity,” 73rd Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Vancouver, March 26–30.

Above all, we would highlight the MASS symposium, “Modeling Mesopotamia: Exploring the Dynamics of Ancient Society,” which was held at the Oriental Institute on January 7, 2008. This

symposium afforded the MASS team an informal venue for presenting the project to the Oriental Institute community. By all accounts, it was a resounding success.

### **Other Activities**

MASS is proud to announce that its simulations will be integrated into classes teaching human-environment interactions to undergraduate and graduate students at the University of Alaska at Anchorage, where Mark Altaweel has a joint appointment. Also, the MASS simulation engine will be enhanced and utilized for the Ph.D. dissertation on ancient Mesopotamian grain-storage strategies, now being written by Tate Paulette. This direct integration of computer simulation into dissertation research is a first for the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago; together, these developments are an indication of the inroads that the MASS project has made in opening new intellectual vistas at the Oriental Institute, the University of Chicago, and beyond.

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## NIPPUR

### McGuire Gibson

As far as we can tell from reports made by our two guards at Nippur and from occasional e-mails by various U.S. military and State Department personnel who have visited, the site remains intact. There is, in fact, a fence around it, although I can still not get an accurate idea of where it goes and whether or not it encloses everything. The fence was put up sometime in 2004 or 2005. In addition to our guards, there are also a number of State Antiquities Guards who live in a building constructed near our expedition house. Photos sent by e-mail show the site looking sad and subject to natural degradation, but there is no looting. The lack of activity is exactly what we would wish for all sites in Iraq under the current insecure conditions.

Recently, a group of scholars visited eight sites in the area about 100 km south of Nippur and found evidence that those mounds had not been looted at all or that looting had stopped a couple of years ago. Given the sites they chose to visit, that is not very surprising. We have known since 2003 that Ur is safe, inside a U.S. Air Force base perimeter. Ubaid and Eridu are also unharmed, but these are not far from Ur, and the presence of so many troops has probably discouraged looting in the vicinity. There was some damage at the site of Tell al-Lahm, to the east of Ur, but this seems to be minor. We have also known for years that Uruk is safe because the guards hired by the German expedition are backed up by their entire tribe. I also knew that ancient Lagash (Tell al-Hiba) was safe because I saw it in 2003 and it was intact at that time and as late as last year, satellite images showed that it was still not looted. It was surprising that Larsa is said to be undamaged, because satellite images from three or four years ago seemed to show that part of it was being leveled with machines. In the group's report, however, it is clear that they did not visit that part of the site but stayed mainly on the higher ground. All this is good news, but if the team had gone to neighboring sites, and especially if they had gone into the area near Nippur, they would have found many mounds still being destroyed by illegal digging. Anyone who has Google Earth on their computers can look at sites in southern Iraq and see the pock-marked surfaces of mounds.

Once the news broke that archaeologists had found the situation at some sites to be better than anticipated, some right-wing media in the United States used the information as proof that archaeologists and other media outlets had made up the story of site looting to begin with. A Web site in England has re-posted a 2003 *Guardian* article based on a television documentary by Dan Cruikshank, which was full of errors, distortions, and even libelous statements that the Iraq National Museum was not looted all that much in April 2003 but that previously the officials in the organization had been helping the Saddam regime to take objects from the collection and sell them abroad.

News media in general have been publishing stories, during the past year, about Iraq National Museum objects being returned from Jordan, Syria, and elsewhere leading the reader to think that everything is being recovered. No one says that these objects have been held in these countries for several years, and that they are included in the count of artifacts that have been "recovered or returned" to Iraq. The number of objects stolen from the Iraq Museum in April 2003 was higher than 15,000. The number of "recovered and returned" objects still amounts to only about 6,000 objects, about the same as what it was a couple of years ago. But the fact that the Iraqis think it is time now to ask for the objects may mean that things really are improving in the country. Maybe there will be a return to some kind of normality that allows the resumption of research in Iraq in the next few years.



In regard to research and publication, I have some very good news to report. Just as I was sitting to write this piece I was notified that the National Endowment for the Humanities has made a major award that will allow us to prepare the backlog of Nippur volumes for publication. This grant gives us the financial means to analyze and write the monographs that we have been working at piecemeal for years. The project, over the next three years, will engage scholars at Pennsylvania, the Royal Ontario Museum, Harvard, and Chicago in a coordinated effort to bring into print the monographs on the Inanna Temple and the Parthian Fortress, which were excavated before I became director. It will also allow the preparation of the manuscripts on all of the seasons in which I have directed the work (1972–1990). In addition, we will be able to publish a report on the first two seasons at Abu Salabikh, which the late Donald P. Hansen excavated in 1962 and 1964/65. Taking part with me in this effort will be Richard L. Zettler at Penn, Karen Wilson, Jean Evans, Robert D. Biggs (Inanna Temple) and Judith A. Franke (Parthian Fortress) at Chicago, Edward Keall of the Royal Ontario Museum, and James A. Armstrong of Harvard (WC-3, TC). Judith A. Franke will also publish her study on Area WB, where she excavated an Old Babylonian baker's house and a Kassite administrative building. My own role will be as the coordinator of all the efforts and as chief author of the reports on large operations at WA, where we exposed part of the Gula Temple, and investigations at points along the city wall. John C. Sanders will consult on the architecture. Work on the project is beginning in summer 2008. We are very grateful to the NEH and to the readers of the proposal who ranked it for funding.

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## NOMADS, TRIBES, AND THE STATE IN THE ANCIENT NEAR EAST: CROSS-DISCIPLINARY PERSPECTIVES

**Jeffrey Szuchman**

The Fourth Annual Oriental Institute Post-Doctoral Seminar was held in Breasted Hall March 7–8, 2008. Our aim was to present and discuss ways to integrate approaches to and ideas about the roles of pastoral nomads and tribe-state interactions in the ancient Near East. These concerns are by no means new; they have been of interest to researchers for decades, and recent work continues to be shaped by the classic theories of Ibn Khaldun, Jean-Robert Kupper (1957), and Michael Rowton (e.g., 1973), along with accounts and ethnographies of Near Eastern nomads in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries too numerous to list. However, despite calls for the integration of archaeology, anthropology, and history in the study of ancient pastoral nomadism in the Near East, each of those disciplines has been addressing these issues in relative isolation. Although great strides have recently been made on this front, there remains a pressing need for cross-disciplinary dialogue to establish a common framework for the study of pastoral nomadism and tribe-state interactions specific to the ancient Near East.

It was this overriding concern that lay behind this year's seminar. The goal of the conference was to find commonalities among the work of those studying nomadic and tribal groups throughout the greater Near East, from Iran to Egypt, and from prehistory to the early Islamic period. Where approaches and theories differed, we aimed to evaluate those differences in order to learn new ways to think about and talk about nomads and tribes in our own research. The seminar was thus an attempt to bring disparate scholars together to push forward a new agenda for studying pastoral nomads, tribes, and the state in the ancient Near East.

One particularly thorny problem associated with organizing a small conference on such a large topic presented itself from the outset: how to convey the themes of the conference without falling into the semantic trap of establishing social categories that may not represent reality. For example, the term "tribe," itself, and many of the attributes associated with it, such as segmentary lineages and egalitarianism, notions that have troubled anthropologists for some time, seem even more fluid and amorphous according to recent literature. In recent years, scholars of both texts and archaeology have acknowledged a degree of integration between urban and pastoral sectors, and between tribes and states, that earlier models did not anticipate. Although these recent approaches appear to capture more accurately the complexity of ancient tribe-state interactions, they also introduce questions about the very categories we use to describe pastoral nomadic tribes. Did such bounded categories really exist in antiquity, or are they fabrications or idealizations created by modern ethnographers? If so, should they be applied to mobile and sedentary communities in the past? Does it even make sense to discuss tribe and state as separate social, political, or economic sectors? As the division between tribe and state in antiquity continues to blur, we may seem hyperaware of the inadequacy of those terms that make up the title of the seminar: "nomad," "tribe," and "state."

This was one among the many issues that we discussed over the course of the conference, in which papers were presented by archaeologists, anthropologists, and historians whose work has focused on the following regions:

- Israel  
Steven Rosen, Ben Gurion University

Benjamin Saidel, East Carolina University

- Jordan
  - Eveline van der Steen, University of Liverpool
  - Thomas E. Levy, University of California, San Diego
- Egypt
  - Robert Ritner, Oriental Institute
  - Hans Barnard, University of California, Los Angeles
- Iran
  - Abbas Alizadeh, Oriental Institute
  - Frank Hole, Yale University
- Syria
  - Donald Whitcomb, Oriental Institute
  - Bertille Lyonnet, Centre National de Recherches Scientifiques, Paris
  - Daniel Fleming, New York University
  - Anne Porter, University of Southern California
- Central Asia
  - Anatoly Khazanov, University of Wisconsin, Madison
  - Thomas Barfield, Boston University

Participants presented papers in three thematic sessions. The first session, chaired by McGuire Gibson of the Oriental Institute, focused on the first step in solving some of these problems: how to identify ancient pastoral nomads and tribes. These papers all dealt with collecting and interpreting problematic or scarce data: how do we interpret the past when texts confront archaeology?



*Seminar participants, from left to right: Front row: Jeffrey Szuchman, Bertille Lyonnet, Daniel Fleming, Anne Porter, Anatoly Khazanov, Robert Ritner, Thomas Barfield. Back row: Frank Hole, Steven Rosen, Eveline van der Steen, Hans Barnard, Benjamin Saidel, Thomas Levy, David Schloen.  
Photo by Kaye Oberhausen*

## NOMADS, TRIBES, AND THE STATE

How do we interpret archaeological data in the absence of texts? How do our own assumptions about modern nomads affect the way we analyze ancient remains?

Hans Barnard's paper on pastoral nomads of Egypt's Eastern Desert dealt with the ramifications that ensue from identifying remains of mobile peoples: now that direct archaeological data of mobile or desert populations is both recoverable and subject to rigorous new forms of analysis, we must avoid simplistic correspondences of named ethnic groups of ancient texts with archaeological cultures. While his conclusion that we may never find archaeological correlates of almost mythic nomadic groups like the Medjay or Blemmyes is sobering, Barnard is ultimately optimistic that an archaeology of mobility in the Eastern Desert will advance our understanding of the region as a locus of complex cultural development in its own right (rather than as a mere appendage to the civilization of the Nile). Whereas Barnard noted that Egyptian texts that refer to nomads were often composed by people who in fact knew very little about the populations to which they refer, Ritner highlighted this very incongruity as evidence for the nature of the relationship between the Egyptian state and Libyan pastoral nomads. For the Egyptian authority, Libyans existed as archetypes, whose defeat had to be represented in visual displays, even if Egyptians in reality knew very little of their western neighbors. Saidel offered a new technique for conducting ethnoarchaeological research: identifying modern nomadic tents and tent remains from satellite imagery freely available from Google Earth. Lyonnet's paper offered evidence that characteristic circular cities (*Kranzhügel*) of third-millennium B.C. Syria may not have been occupied and ruled by an urban elite, rather they may have been central places for annual gatherings of otherwise dispersed pastoral nomadic groups. Her theory is a compelling argument that what archaeologists might initially interpret as urban occupations or administrative centers may in fact have been produced by mobile groups.

The second session, chaired by David Schloen of the Oriental Institute, focused on social and economic aspects of nomadism. How are these factors related to other defining characteristics of nomadic communities: mobility? Does the mobility of nomads set their economic agenda, or is it the economics of pastoral nomadism that determines their mobility? Just how interdependent, in terms of economies, sociopolitical structures, or kinship, are nomadic and non-nomadic communities? What effect does mobility have on nomadic social structures, intertribal interactions, and nomad-sedentary relations? Can urban or hierarchical power structures develop among mobile populations? Many of the papers in this session questioned the lingering sedentary biases of current research and reassessed the potential of pastoral nomadic communities to develop independent complex social structures and sophisticated technologies, and to impact state formation and regional dynamics.

Khazanov explained what a dramatic revolution the domestication of the camel must have engendered in traditional nomad-sedentary interactions. Horses and camels allowed nomads to untether themselves from sedentary agricultural societies and made possible dis-integration of enclosed nomadic systems. Alizadeh differed in his approach to long-term changes in nomadic adaptations in southwest Iran. There, he argued, early mobile pastoralists were not dependent upon sedentary farmers, rather they constituted but one element of a fully integrated agro-pastoral social complex. His approach offers a way to understand how hierarchical state structures may develop from tribal contexts and indicates that the highland nomadic tribes of southwest Iran may in fact have been the organizational force behind social, political, and economic transactions between Mesopotamia and Elam. Levy argued that seasonal copper production, organized and carried out by nomads, took place on an industrial scale at the site of Khirbet en-Nahas in Iron Age Jordan. Levy's paper stretches previous conceptions about the potential for nomads to undertake large construction projects or industrial craft activities. Porter's paper made a strong case that

archaeologists have long operated according to a misguided model, derived from modern ethnography, of ancient nomads as “essentially alien to urban and agricultural society in the Near East of the third and second millennia B.C.” In fact, she argued, the very fact that nomads were mobile required that they develop social structures that were able to counteract the forces that would otherwise have led to fragmentation of geographically dispersed tribes. In the late third and early second millennium B.C., one way to encourage social cohesion was by attributing the same name to multiple locales where religious or royal rituals took place. These toponyms became evocative symbols that served to socially integrate tribe members who were dispersed in time and space.

The last session, chaired by Adam T. Smith of the University of Chicago Anthropology Department, focused on tribe-state interactions: how tribes develop into states, or tribal states; the role of tribal leaders in shaping interactions; how multiple power structures can co-occur within the same tribe or state; and the factors that determine long-term changes in tribe-state relations. Rosen looked at shifting settlement patterns of agricultural and pastoral peoples in the Negev Desert over several millennia and found that in certain periods the relationship between the two takes on distinctive characteristics. Whitcomb discussed the settlement of Arab tribes during the early phases of the Islamic state and looked at archaeological evidence of both seasonal movements of centers of authority and sedentarization as mechanisms that aided the transition from nomadic tribes to the Umayyad state. Fleming argued that Zimri-Lim, the ruler of the Mari kingdom in the eighteenth century B.C., was uniquely able to combine the mobile and non-mobile segments of his kingdom. Van der Steen presented similar cases attested in the ethnohistorical record of nineteenth-century A.D. Jordan, when charismatic individuals became the rulers of powerful tribes and sometimes tribal states.

The responses by Frank Hole and Thomas Barfield prompted a number of important debates. One recurring topic centered on the appropriateness of ethnographic analogy for understanding ancient nomadism. The archetypal black tent, upon which many ethnoarchaeological studies of camp layout, domestic space, and personal effects have been based, is probably not an appropriate analogue for ancient nomadic environments or behavior. Furthermore, the behavior of modern pastoral groups in one region may be very different from that of pastoralists in another region, either as a result of geographic, political, social, or a host of other contingent factors. Despite the critique of ethnographic analogy that was woven into several papers, others suggested that new technologies and a nuanced ethnohistorical approach can indeed offer new ways of understanding changes in social, economic, or domestic behavior in the past. Hole also reminded us that there is much to be gained by a careful analysis of the behavior of modern pastoral nomadic groups in the Middle East, especially when those behaviors are a response, in part, to geography and climate, features which have changed very little since antiquity. In other cases, patterns of nomadic behavior might reflect responses to the demands of mobility itself, which Porter sees as the fundamental feature of pastoral nomadism that contributes to shaping social structure. Hole’s response cautions us that although new approaches to ancient pastoral nomadism are both necessary and often fruitful, we must be careful not to stray too far from understanding nomadism as much more than an adaptive response to generally stable environmental factors.

There was also discussion of what constituted a “tribal state,” and whether such a thing could have existed at all. Barfield suggested that what some referred to as a tribal state was more likely a situation in which a tribal leader, by means of military advantage and charisma, became the leader of a state, but did not maintain tribal traditions or organizational structures. Whitcomb suggested that Mu’awiya, the founder of the Umayyad dynasty, was indeed the ruler of a tribal state, but that this was short-lived, having devolved as a result of political factionalization. Although we came to no consensus, this was, as one participant pointed out, perhaps partly the result of the

## NOMADS, TRIBES, AND THE STATE

differing definitions of tribal states, one of the very problems that the conference intended to address. That this issue surfaced near the end of the second day of the conference should remind us that semantic disagreements may underlie similar debates about ancient pastoral nomadism and tribe-state interactions. If we are to continue to make progress in understanding the ways tribes and states interacted in the ancient Near East, we must strive to be unambiguous in our terminology and specific in our analysis.

One of the more significant outcomes of the conference is that, in many ways, it turned the notion of tribe-state interdependency on its head and demonstrated that in some cases not only can tribes act entirely independently, but states can sometimes be dependent on tribes. At other times, many of the features of nomadic tribes begin to look very state-like, which suggests that we will need to continue to wrestle with our definitions of tribe and state. It is likely that the line between tribes and states will continue to blur, as several participants argued that nomadic tribes can take a rather sophisticated role in regional interactions, industrial and administrative organization, the development of urban centers, and state-formation. Many papers also stretched previous ideas concerning what tribes were capable of. Construction of urban sites, monumental architecture, and the formation of powerful kingdoms turn out to be well within the realm of tribal accomplishments. Each of the contributors raised vital questions that future research will need to address. One of the more exciting questions these papers raised is whether we are only just beginning to identify nomadic tribes as the agents of significant social change in the ancient Near East, changes we had previously thought were instigated by states or even empires. If so, in how many other cases have we overlooked the autonomous role of nomads or tribes in regional developments?

The proceedings of the conference will be published as the fifth volume in the Oriental Institute Seminar Series (OIS). The publication of the 2007 seminar was available by the start of this year's conference, and I am optimistic that the same remarkable turnaround will be possible this year. I am honored to have had the opportunity to organize this conference and to have received such warm hospitality from the Oriental Institute faculty and staff. I thank Arthur and Lee Herbst for their generous support. I am also thankful for the guidance, diligence, and graciousness of everybody in the Publications Office, Tom Urban, Leslie Schramer, and Katie L. Johnson. Mariana Perlinac and Kaye Oberhausen provided invaluable logistical and moral support. I am also grateful to Seth Richardson, Don Whitcomb, and Abbas Alizadeh, who helped shape the intellectual framework of the conference, and I am especially grateful to Gil Stein, Director of the Oriental Institute, for his unfailing enthusiasm, advice, and support over the past year.

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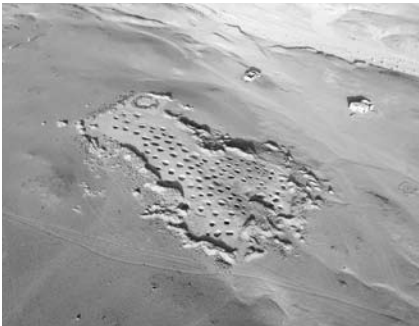
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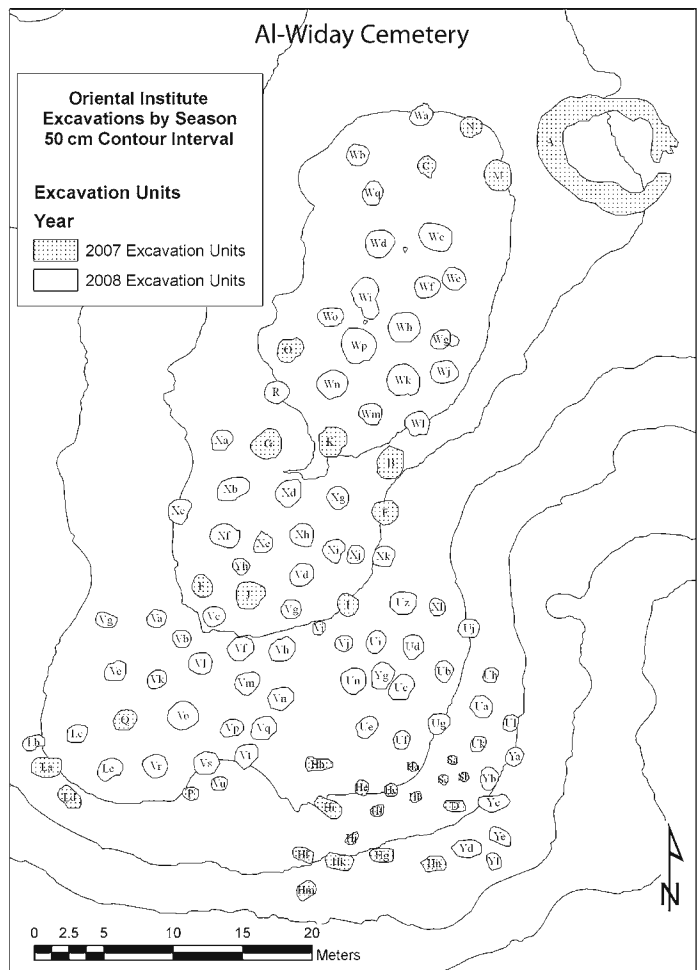
## NUBIAN EXPEDITION

**Geoff Emberling and Bruce Williams**

The Oriental Institute Nubian Expedition conducted six and a half weeks of excavations and survey in the Merowe Dam Archaeological Salvage Project from January 24 to March 8, 2008. As in the 2007 season, we were not able to work in our concession area, which centered on Shirri Island in the heart of Manasir territory, and we worked instead in the Gdansk Archaeological Museum concession with the generous agreement of the Gdansk team's director Henryk Paner. It is a pleasure to thank the staff of the National Corporation for Antiquities and Museums in Sudan, particularly Director Hassan Hussein Idris, Director of Excavations Dr. Salah Mohammed Ahmed, and our Inspector, Mahmoud Suliman Bashir, for their collegial and professional support. We also acknowledge the Pagoulatos brothers and their staff at the Acropole Hotel, who provide support far beyond accommodation. Our work was made possible by the very generous support of the Packard Humanities Institute (PHI). Most important, we thank the people from the threatened area called Amri in the Fourth Cataract and their Omda for kindness, hospitality, and hard work, without which little would have been accomplished.



**Figure 1.** Area of excavation of the Al-Widay I cemetery, looking northeast (courtesy of the Gdansk mission)



**Figure 2.** Plan of Oriental Institute excavations at the Al-Widay I cemetery

## NUBIAN EXPEDITION

We worked this season in a number of areas around Al-Widay village, where we rented two houses from the family of Hassan Ahmed Ali. Our work included excavations in two cemeteries of mostly Kerma date (Al-Widay I and Umm Gebir Survey Site UGS 101) and one dome grave cemetery (UGS 049), test excavations at three settlement sites of Neolithic (UGS 045), Kerma-Napatan (UGS 112), and Kerma and Christian (Al-Widay 3) date.

### Al-Widay I (Middle and Classic Kerma Cemetery)

Our main effort was focused on the Middle and Classic Kerma cemetery of Al-Widay I. In 2007 we excavated thirty-two graves. This season, we aimed not only to excavate all graves in the cemetery, but also to excavate the entire area down to the ground surface contemporary with the construction of the tombs in order to identify possible funerary deposits outside the tombs (figs. 1–2). Using this method, we discovered four deposits of bowls placed upside-down in a manner reminiscent of C-Group burials (fig. 3) and two areas with signs of burning, evidence of sacrifice, or preparation of funerary meals.

We also excavated seventy-six burials, of which the majority appear to be Middle Kerma in date. At least four (L-c, S-c, V-k, and Y-c) are Classic Kerma, although further analysis of the finds will be needed to clarify the date of these burials. Many of the graves had been looted in antiquity, but we recovered a great deal of material including over 150 ceramic vessels (fig. 4).

Superstructures were constructed almost directly above the shaft. They comprised circles of large stones filled with soil, gravel, and stones, smaller ones piled above, and curving inward to a height of about half a meter and paved over, in a kind of cushion-shape (figs. 5–6).

A basic set of ceramic burial offerings included a cup, a larger bowl or jar, and a small pot that probably contained incense. The body was laid on its right side, hands near the head and legs tightly flexed (fig. 7). The orientation of the graves was not entirely consistent, but most had the head to the northeast (or pointing upstream). Some Middle Kerma graves contained faunal remains, either the horns of a goat or an entire animal. A few burials contained more than one individual, this season mostly an adult female and a fetus or infant. Middle Kerma



*Figure 3. Two upside-down bowls outside a tomb in Al-Widay I (Locus W-3, pot 1 to right; photo #442)*



*Figure 4. Selection of pottery vessels from Al-Widay I. Clockwise from upper left: Pan-Grave-type beaker; Kerma carinated black-topped bowl; Egyptian Middle Kingdom jar; small, coarse local bowl with impressions and holes for suspension near the rim (it contained ashes, possibly from incense); Classic Kerma black-topped jar; Classic Kerma beaker*





Figure 5. Tumuli in the Al-Widay I cemetery (photo #446)

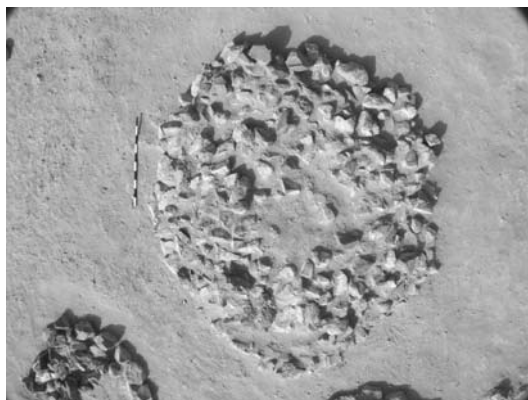


Figure 6. Overhead of a tumulus at Al-Widay I

graves had a round burial shaft with stones placed around the edges, while Classic Kerma shafts were rectangular and lined with stones. The Old Kush III/Classic Kerma burials found this year also confirmed a difference of location from the earlier phase, being all at the south end of the cemetery. In addition, we found a few Napatan graves at Al-Widay I, dated by the distinctive beads and amulets of the period (fig. 8).

Among the most interesting burials in the Al-Widay cemetery was the Middle Kerma burial of a child of about ten years old that contained ten pots, more than 850 shell, faience, and carnelian beads (fig. 9), an imported sandstone palette, a large oyster shell perhaps also for cosmetics, and two scarabs, one of which (fig. 10) was inscribed with the name and rank of an Egyptian officer (and thus, certainly, not belonging originally to the child buried in the tomb). The officer was named Nebsumenu with the rank *Shemsu n Remen-tep*, Retainer or Captain of the First Battalion, who apparently served in one of the Egyptian fortresses near the Second Cataract, for sealings of these officers are known from Uronarti and Serra East.

Another Middle Kerma burial contained a necklace of over 100 small gold beads (fig. 11) along with five pots (one an Egyptian imported marl jar) and a sheep or goat.

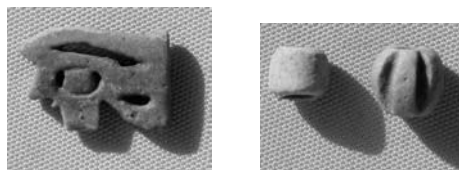


Figure 8. Wedjat-eye amulet (photo #6535), and beads of the Napatan period from Al-Widay I (photo #6538). Scale 1:1



Figure 7. Burial at Al-Widay (photo #514)

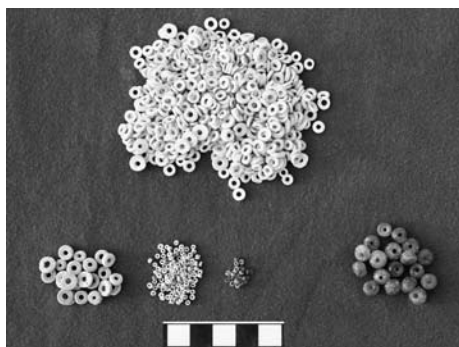


Figure 9. More than 850 faience, shell, and carnelian beads from Al-Widay I, tomb W-h (2008.501; photo #6666)

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Figure 10. Scarab inscribed with name and rank of Egyptian officer, from Al-Widay I, Tomb X-h (2008.436; photo #7285)



Figure 11. More than 100 small gold beads from Al-Widay I, Tomb W-k (2008.288; photo #7302)



Figure 12. Top to bottom: Scarab with protective signs and "Nefer-re," Tomb X-d (2008.315; photo #7282); scarab with floral design from Tomb W-c (2008.289; photo#7294); and scarab with man and crocodile from Tomb L-e (2008.21, photo #7288)

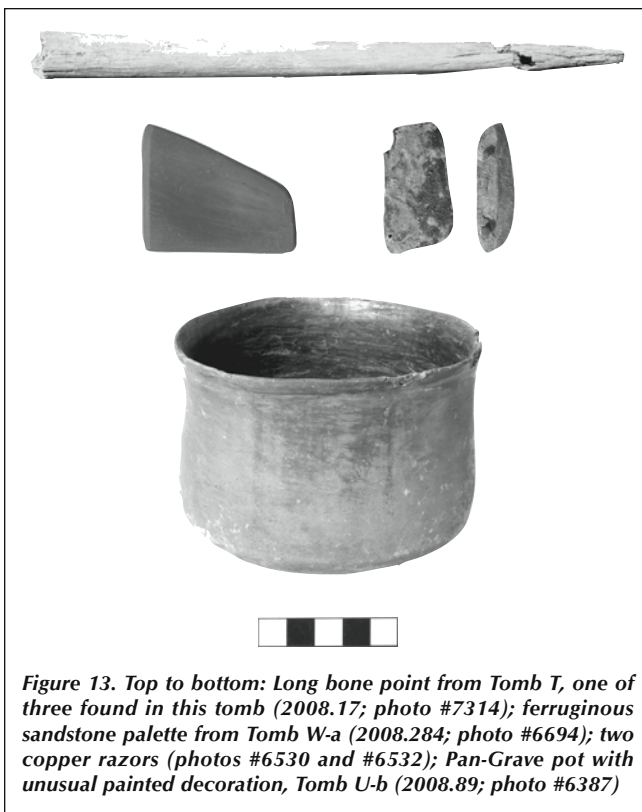


Figure 13. Top to bottom: Long bone point from Tomb T, one of three found in this tomb (2008.17; photo #7314); ferruginous sandstone palette from Tomb W-a (2008.284; photo #6694); two copper razors (photos #6530 and #6532); Pan-Grave pot with unusual painted decoration, Tomb U-b (2008.89; photo #6387)



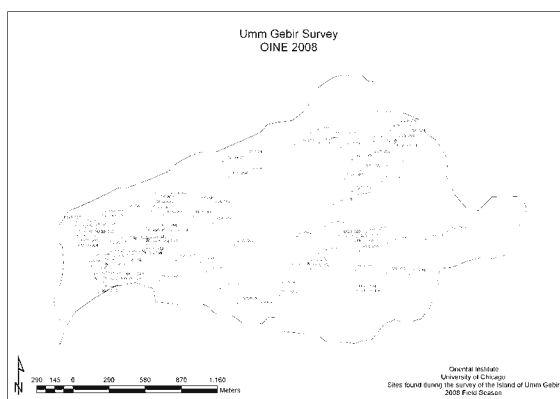
Figure 14. Ivory bracelet in situ in Tomb U-n (2008.118; photo #338)

Other intriguing individual finds included three additional scarabs (fig. 12), long bone points, trough-shaped palettes made of imported iron-bearing sandstone, two bronze razor blades (one with the remains of a wooden handle), a relatively large number of imported Egyptian ceramic vessels, a number of pots very similar to those known from Pan-Grave burials farther down the Nile (fig. 13), as well as an ivory bracelet (fig. 14).

The excavation of an entire single cemetery will provide rich possibilities for further analysis of change over time, including osteological analysis of a single community, analysis of plant residues (phytoliths and starches), as well as studies of spatial groupings and the distribution of ceramics within the cemetery.

## Umm Gebir Survey

A walking survey of Umm Gebir Island located some 112 sites ranging in date from Neolithic to Islamic (fig. 15) and several sites were selected for test excavations. In the western part of the island, these included a Neolithic site (UGS 045; fig. 16) with remains of fieldstone structures, a surprising result in an area where Neolithic structures are rare. Two Napatan dome graves (structural chamber tombs constructed of fieldstones) of a cluster of four were excavated at UGS 049 (figs. 17–18), part of a larger group of clusters arranged around a hillside, itself a kind of cemetery. While clusters of dome graves, a tomb type unique to the Fourth Cataract, are well known, the cemetery complex is of special interest.



**Figure 15.** Map of sites discovered in walking survey of Umm Gebir Island



**Figure 16.** View of feature on Neolithic site UGS 045 on Umm Gebir Island (photo #7321)



**Figure 17.** Dome graves on Umm Gebir Island (photo #7244)



**Figure 18.** Pilgrim flask from Napatan dome grave (photo #6649)

## NUBIAN EXPEDITION



**Figure 19.** View of “post-classic” Kerma cemetery on Umm Gebir Island (UGS 101; photo #6801)

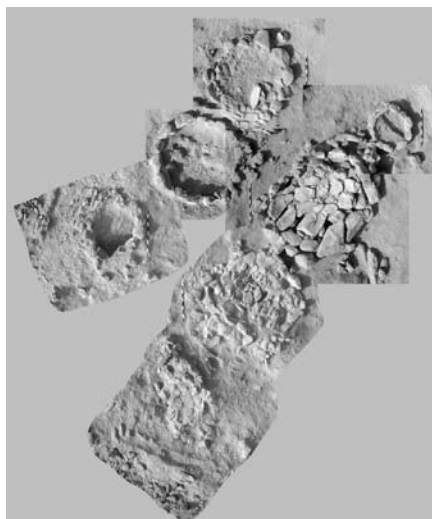


**Figure 20.** Left: “post-classic” Kerma pot (black-topped red ware with painted yellow spots) from UGS 101, Tomb C-a (2008.496; photo 6644); Right: painted jug of the Egyptian Eighteenth Dynasty from UGS 101, Tomb C-a (2008.527 and 535; photo #6747)

In the eastern part of the island, a cemetery of perhaps 75–100 burials turned out to be “post-classic” Kerma, at least in part (UGS 101; figs. 19–20), and tombs there were definitely dated by imported pottery well into the Egyptian Eighteenth Dynasty. This is important, for it shows the continuation of traditions of the Kerma period into the New Kingdom, a time otherwise quite poorly known in the Fourth Cataract. A settlement site nearby was partially excavated by the Gdansk mission (UGS 112; figs. 21–22) who invited us to continue their work. It may be partially contemporary with the cemetery, but it definitely continued into the Napatan period, when a number of remarkable structures with stone-slab foundations were built with some circular stone outlines, probably bins, nearby. Further investigation of the cemetery and settlement together should enhance our knowledge of a region that escaped the effects of the otherwise pervasive Egyptian New Kingdom cultural penetration of Kush.



**Figure 21.** View of “post-classic” Kerma or Napatan settlement on Umm Gebir Island (UGS 112; photo #6804)



**Figure 22.** Overhead view of stone platforms and circles associated with burned layers in “post-classic” Kerma or Napatan settlement on Umm Gebir Island (UGS 112); features toward the north (above) were excavated by the Gdansk mission (photo montage)

## Geological Work Related to Gold Processing

Following our work last year at the Kerma/Napatan gold-extraction site at Hosh el-Guruf, James Harrell continued investigation into possible local sources of gold. After local surveys and discussions with local gold miners, who also showed small bars of gold they had mined, he was informed that they select sand for gold panning based on the visible presence of “*feyrous*,” in this case, garnets. Garnet and gold are both dense, heavy minerals and so would settle in similar places in alluvial environments. He was able to predict the location of garnet deposits with some accuracy in the vicinity of Al-Widay.

## Conclusion

The complete excavation of a cemetery, the first fully excavated Kerma (Old Kush) cemetery in the region, a Neolithic site with structures, a Napatan dome-grave cemetery, a Kerma (Old Kush) cemetery of demonstrable New Kingdom date, and a Napatan settlement with a previously unknown type of structure, are strong results for so brief a time. Given the fact that so much has only been sampled, and so much has not even been surveyed, the richness of these discoveries makes the impending loss of this entire region all the more poignant.

This field season was demanding, and we gratefully recognize the contribution of the excavation staff, who worked on a difficult task in challenging circumstances: Kathryn Bandy, archaeologist; Scott Bierly, archaeologist; Christina Fojas, human osteologist; James Harrell, geologist; Debora Heard, archaeologist; Megan Ingvaldstad, human osteologist; Megaera Lorenz, archaeologist; Justine James, archaeologist; Thomas James, archaeologist; Edyta Klimaszewska-Drabot, archaeologist; and Margaret Wilson, paleobotanist.

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# THE PERSEPOLIS FORTIFICATION ARCHIVE PROJECT

Matthew W. Stolper

The main aims of the Persepolis Fortification Archive Project are to record the Archive and to make the record available widely and continuously. The PFA Project pursues these aims in collaboration with projects at other institutions. A legal emergency clouds the future of the Persepolis Fortification tablets (see [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chicago's\\_Persian\\_heritage\\_crisis](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chicago's_Persian_heritage_crisis)), so Project members work with a constant tension between the need for fast work against an uncertain deadline and the need for precise results that will make serious work on the PFA possible even if access to the original tablets is interrupted.

One phase of the Project, carried out in collaboration with the West Semitic Research Project (WSRP) at the University of Southern California and supported by a two-year grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, captures two sets of very high-resolution images of Aramaic Fortification tablets and a sample of the uninscribed, sealed Fortification tablets. One set is made with high-resolution scanning backs, long exposures, polarized and filtered lighting (fig. 1); another set is made with a polynomial texture mapping (PTM) apparatus, producing images that allow the viewer to manipulate the apparent angle and intensity of the lighting (fig. 2). Since the set-up, training, and shakedown phase described in last year's *Annual Report*, Dennis Campbell (Ph.D., NELC), John Nielsen (Ph.D., NELC), Clinton Moyer (Ph.D. candidate, Cornell), and Miller Prosser (Ph.D. candidate, NELC) have made image sets of about 750 items. The number

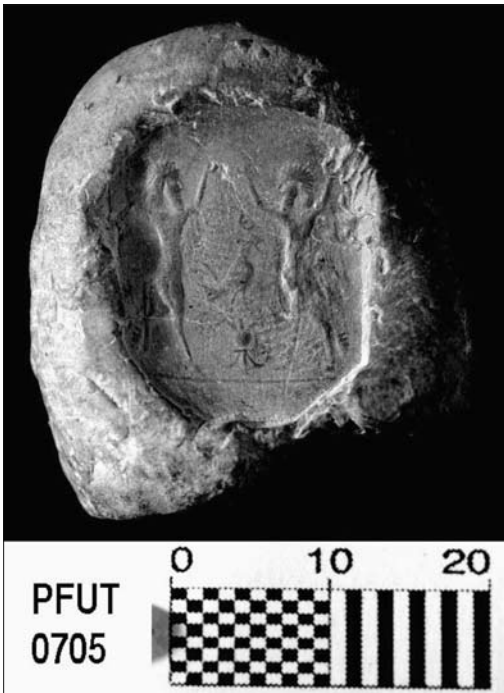


Figure 1. Pre-scan of an uninscribed Persepolis Fortification tablet

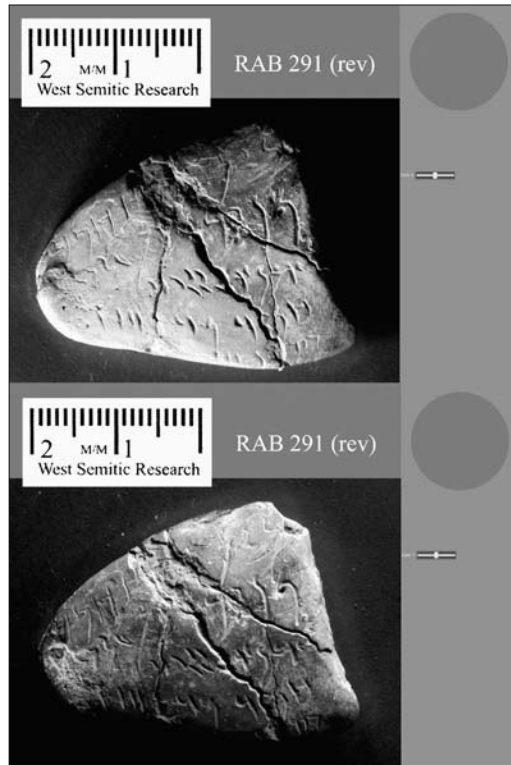


Figure 2. Two prints from a PTM image set: an Aramaic Persepolis Fortification tablet, apparent lighting from lower left (top) and upper right (bottom)

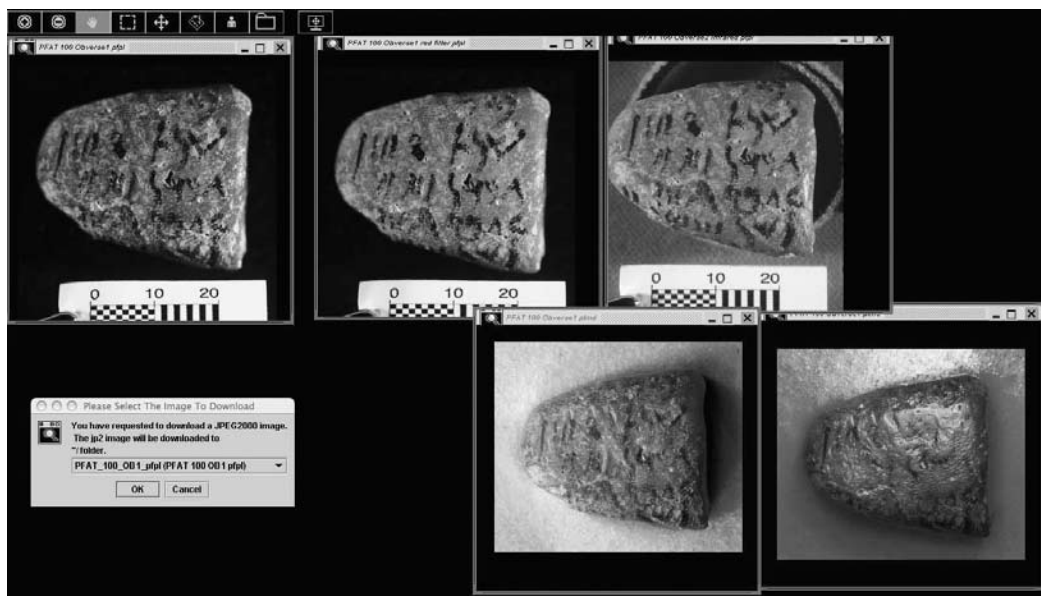


Figure 3. Selected images of a Persepolis Fortification Aramaic Tablet (PFAT) displayed on InscriptiFact (<http://www.inscriptifact.com/>), showing results of different filtered lightings from high-resolution images and different lighting angles from a PTM image set

of setups required for thorough recording of these awkwardly shaped objects is larger than first projected, but the work flow has been growing smoother and faster, so by the end of 2008, we expect to have very high-quality records of at least 1,100 items, including all the monolingual Aramaic documents identified so far. As of July 2008, images of about seventy items are available on the Web site of the WSRP, InscriptiFact (<http://www.inscriptifact.com/>, fig. 3), another 120 are being reviewed for public display, and a procedure is in place for rolling out additional groups of images at more or less regular intervals.

A second phase of the Project makes conventional digital images of Elamite Fortification tablets, concentrating first on more than 2,600 documents that were edited by the late Richard T. Hallock, but never published (the so-called PF-NN texts), and secondarily on more than 2,000

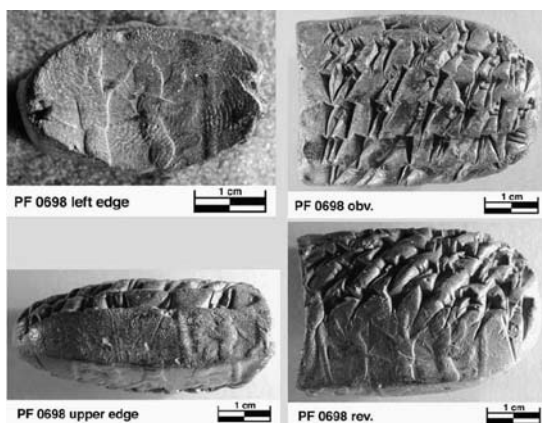


Figure 4. Selected digital images of a published Elamite Persepolis Fortification tablet returned to Iran in 2004

documents published by Hallock in *Persepolis Fortification Tablets* (OIP 92 [1969], available for free download at <http://oi.uchicago.edu/research/pubs/catalog/oip/>). During 2007–2008, the crew of photographers and editors included undergraduates Ivan Cangemi, Elizabeth Davidson, and Madison Krieger (all Classics); graduate students Lori Calabria, Jennifer Gregory, Megaera Lorenz, and Elise MacArthur (all NELC); volunteers Irene Glasner, Louise Golland, and Siwei Wang; as well as Gregory Hebda (B.A., University of New Hampshire) and Joseph Rosner (undergraduate, Brown University). As of July 2008, we have useful image sets of about 1,700 of the PF-NN documents and about 600 of the published documents

## PERSEPOLIS FORTIFICATION ARCHIVE PROJECT

*Figure 5. An  
Elamite Persepolis  
Fortification  
tablet on CDLI*

cdli

**Text display: OIP 092, 0692**

Access System Information  
 Search Form  
 Copyright

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<b>Primary Publication</b> OIP 092, 0692, Hallock, Richard T., 1969 <b>Collection</b> PFAP, Oriental Institute, University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, USA <b>Museum no.</b> <b>CDLI no.</b> P383378 <b>Provenience</b> Persepolis <b>Genre</b> Administrative <b>Subgenre</b> <b>Period</b> Achaemenid <b>Measurements (mm)</b> xx	<b>Source of original files:</b> <b>Catalogue:</b> CDLI staff via 20080404rke <b>Transliteration:</b> Hallock, Richard T. <b>Photographic:</b> If not otherwise indicated, images were prepared by CDLI staff. For copyright, click here. <b>Line art:</b> If not otherwise indicated, line art drawings are to be credited to primary publication author(s).	
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[View full catalog entry](#)

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**Revisions:**

(including all those restored to Iran in 2004, fig. 4). By early 2009 we anticipate that all the PF-NN documents will be recorded in this way.

A third phase, carried out in collaboration with the Cuneiform Digital Library Initiative at UCLA, makes fast flat-bed scans of previously unphotographed Elamite texts beginning with the well-studied and collated items published in OIP 92. Preliminary versions of online editions of these texts, some with accompanying images, can be viewed on the CDLI Web site (<http://cdli.ucla.edu/> [click on “CDLI Search” and enter “OIP 092” in the form under “Primary Publication”]) (figs. 5–6). Graduate students Andrew Dix, Seunghee Yie (both NELC), and Wayne Munsch (Divinity) are preparing updated transliterations in PFA Project standard form, entering corrections and revisions made since the original publication, and making scans of the unphotographed tablets. A complete set of corrected transliterations and images will be available online



*Figure 6. An enlarged “fat cross” display of flatbed scans of the tablet shown in figure 5, on CDLI*



in early 2009, and as PFA Project editor Wouter Henkelman (Amsterdam and Paris) supplies revised translations and notes, this will become the revised, corrected, and updated edition of Hallock's fundamental work on the archive, *Persepolis Fortification Tablets*.

The streams of images and editions coming from all these phases pour into the Online Cultural Heritage Research Environment, based in Chicago (OCHRE, see <http://ochre.lib.uchicago.edu/>). As the Elamite texts published in OIP 92 are completed for presentation via CDLI, they will also be imported into OCHRE, and as PF-NN texts and images are entered in OCHRE, they are also prepared for export to CDLI. At the same time PFA Project editor Annalisa Azzoni (Vanderbilt University) prepares online editions of the Aramaic texts, PFA Project editor Mark Garrison (Trinity University) prepares analytical entries of uninscribed, sealed texts. All the editors are collaborating with OCHRE specialist Sandra Schloen in preparing a first version of a user interface that will make an interconnected sample of Fortification documents of all categories — Aramaic, Elamite, Uninscribed, and Miscellaneous — publicly available for complex views and searches by the end of 2008 (fig. 7).

Detailed cataloging of the immense unstudied balance of PFA tablets and fragments has taken a backseat to triage, for the time being, as PFA Project editors search the storage boxes for items that are in good enough condition to reward immediate recording and presentation, and for other items that require immediate conservation to prepare them for recording and presentation. During 2007–2008, the results of this triage included selection and classification of several hundred uninscribed tablets, with a stunning variety of seal impressions and sealing patterns; recording and preliminary readings of more than 100 new Elamite tablets and fragments (fig. 8); infre-

The screenshot displays the OCHRE web interface for the Persepolis Fortification Archive. The main content area shows the entry for tablet PF-NN 0010, including its obverse text with transliterations and notes. The notes mention a numeral possibly 10 and a specific Elamite word. To the right, an image of the tablet is shown with transliterations overlaid on the clay surface. Below the image, a search result for the word 'kamakaš' is displayed, showing its meaning as 'qualifies rations' and listing other tablets where it appears.

Figure 7. A previously unpublished Persepolis Fortification Elamite tablet in OCHRE, showing transliteration (center), correlation of translation and text (left), image marked up with transliteration (upper right), and result of glossary search on an Elamite word in line 6 (lower right)

## PERSEPOLIS FORTIFICATION ARCHIVE PROJECT



**Figure 8. Selected Elamite Fortification tablets, recently read and cataloged**



**Figure 9. Conservator Monica Hudak cleans a Persepolis Fortification tablet**

quent but steady identification of previously unrecognized monolingual Aramaic documents; and painstaking cleaning and conservation of more than 300 tablets (fig. 9).

The PFA Project continues to be fortunate in gaining support within and beyond the University community. Humanities Division Computing stepped up in the emergency to provide storage for the rapidly growing volume of PFA Project digital data and support for file movement among collaborating projects. The PARSA Community Foundation generously renewed its support for conservation of PFA tablets for the coming year, the Iran Heritage Foundation offers support for some of our pressing equipment needs, and substantial grants from the National Endowment of the Humanities and from the Getty Foundation assure continuing support for some phases of the Project and some Project staff for the coming two years.

There have been many occasions to plead for the unique importance of the PFA and to try to engage the scholarly and general audiences with the work and aspirations of the PFA Project. In November and December 2007, I summarized the Project at workshops, at UCLA and Johns Hopkins, convened by the collaborating projects CDLI and WSRP. In March 2008, I described the Archive and the Project during a daylong lecture series on *The Presence of Iran in the Ancient World*, sponsored by the Razi family at the University of California at Irvine (RealAudio version available at <http://persepolistablets.blogspot.com/2008/03/matthew-stolpers-lecture-persepolis.html>). Early in April 2008, I spoke on the Project to digital information specialists at the Spring Task Force Meeting of the Coalition for Networked Information. Later in April, I spoke to Zoroastrian communities in Dallas and Houston (alongside presentations by Zoroastrian scholars Almut Hintze [London] and Jennifer Rose [Berkeley]), to the presidential dinner of the American Society for Clinical Investigation and American Association of Physicians, and to members of the Oriental Institute.

An article in the Winter 2008 issue of *Tableau*, the publication of the University of Chicago Division of Humanities (see <http://humanities.uchicago.edu/tableau/>) discusses the legal crisis and the Project's responses for the University community and its alumni. The PFA Project Web log (<http://persepolistablets.blogspot.com/>) provides the greater online audience with a variety of articles from news and scholarly media, about the Archive, the lawsuit, and other matters connected

with Achaemenid archaeology and epigraphy. PFA Project Editor and Oriental Institute Research Associate Charles E. Jones (Institute for the Study of the Ancient World, New York), reports that the blog has been viewed more than 18,600 times in the twelve months after July 2007, by more than 11,100 visitors, 1,700 of whom made repeat visits. After the home page, the most popular entries so far are “What Are the Persepolis Fortification Tablets?” (<http://persepolistablets.blogspot.com/2007/01/what-are-persepolis-fortification.html>, originally published in the *Oriental Institute News & Notes*, Winter 2007), and the announcement of our most extraordinary discovery “An Old Persian Text in the Persepolis Fortification Archive” (<http://persepolistablets.blogspot.com/2007/06/old-persian-text-in-persepolis.html>, with a link to the full online publication at <http://www.achemenet.com/ressources/enligne/arta/pdf/2007.001-Stolper-Tavernier.pdf>).

Extraordinary items continue to appear as the material is sifted. The impressions of two seals with Achaemenid imagery and Egyptian hieroglyphic inscriptions (to be published by Project Editor Mark Garrison and Oriental Institute Professor Robert Ritner, fig. 10) are the most engaging of these discoveries, emblematic of the value of the PFA. Seals of this kind are very rare, but impressions that tie the owners of such seals to a specific place, moment, and institutional context are unique to the PFA. With discoveries of this kind, the PFA Project not only adds depth and density to knowledge of the Archive itself, but also creates links to other strands in the common project of the Oriental Institute.



*Figure 10. Impression of an Achaemenid cylinder seal with an Egyptian hieroglyphic inscription, on an unscribed Fortification tablet*

## SYRIAC MANUSCRIPT PROJECT

**Stuart Creason**

Because of the generous support of the Rathmann Family Foundation, as well as several individuals within the Assyrian-American community in the United States during the past year, the Syriac Manuscript Project was able to make slow but steady progress on four important tasks connected with the Vööbus Collection of Syriac Manuscripts on Film: the physical inventory of the film, the scanning of the film, the cataloging of the manuscripts pictured in the film, and the development of the project database.

### Physical Inventory

At the beginning of this year, the physical inventory of the film had been completed for all but six of the twenty-three locations represented in the Vööbus Collection, and over the past year, all the frames of film from four of these six locations were counted: Damascus, Sharfeh, Mosul, and Baghdad. With the completion of the inventory of the film from these four locations, the total number of images in the collection is now estimated to be 60,000, a revision downward from the estimate of 70,000 made in June 2007.

### Scanning

As of June 30, 2008, a total of 4,800 images on 233 segments of film depicting portions of 62 manuscripts from 14 different locations had been successfully scanned. These figures represent an increase over the total from the previous year of 2,804 images, 148 segments of film, 35 manuscripts, and 4 locations. These totals are broken down by location in the following table.

<i>Location</i>	<i>Number of Manuscripts</i>	<i>Number of Film Segments</i>	<i>Number of Images</i>
Bartelli	1	1	10
Qaraqosh	1	4	104
Bote	2	5	153
Mar Behnam	3	7	143
Hah	1	8	278
Kerkuk	3	12	240
Tel Keph	2	8	259
Anhel	4	15	315
Atshaneh	9	17	371
Pampakuda	2	16	544
Istanbul	6	51	695
Mar Mattai	17	47	919
Mar Gabriel	7	21	378
Mardin	4	21	391
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>233</b>	<b>4,800</b>

All the film from the first twelve of these fourteen locations has now been scanned (i.e., every location except Mar Gabriel and Mardin), and so these figures represent the total number of images in the Vööbus Collection for these twelve locations.

## **Cataloging**

Of all the tasks that will be performed on the Vööbus Collection, cataloging is the most labor-intensive, and therefore, the most expensive, and work in this area has gone particularly slowly over the past year. Of the 4,800 scanned images, only 1,000 have been adequately cataloged, including all the scanned images from Bartelli, Qaraqosh, Kerkuk, and Mardin, along with a portion of the scanned images from Atshaneh, Mar Behnam, Tell Keph, and Pampakuda. During the coming year, this area will receive particular attention in order to bring the tasks of scanning and cataloging into better balance.

## **Project Database**

The development of the database for the project involves three distinct steps. The first is the creation of the logical model for the database, that is, a schematic representation of the way in which the various kinds of information will be related to one another within the database, along with definitions for each of these kinds of information. As of June 30, 2008, this work was nearing completion and preparations were being made to move onto the next step: the implementation of the logical model in a particular version of database software. Once that is complete, then the data that has already been generated in the scanning and the cataloging process, and that is currently being stored in a provisional form, can be migrated into the database. After the completion of this third step at some time during the coming year, the project will have a fully functional database in which all the data from the project can be stored and accessed, thereby increasing the pace at which some of the work of the project, most notably the cataloging, can be performed.

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## TELL EDFU

Nadine Moeller

The remains of what once had been the provincial capital of the Second Upper Egyptian nome can be found at Tell Edfu, which is one of the last well-preserved ancient cities in Egypt. This site is situated a few meters west of the well-known Ptolemaic temple (fig. 1). Tell Edfu is one of the rare examples where almost three thousand years of ancient Egyptian history are still preserved in the stratigraphy of a single mound. The Edfu excavations thus have enormous potential for increasing our understanding of ancient urbanism in Egypt.

Egyptological fieldwork has traditionally focused extensively on tombs and temples; by contrast, the study of settlements is a fairly recent discipline within Egyptology, in which the idea that Egypt was a “civilization without cities” prevailed until the 1970s. Tell Edfu provides the unique opportunity to contribute new data to this area of research. The site has suffered great losses by the *sebbakhin*, local farmers who, at the turn of the twentieth century, quarried away these abandoned mounds in order to reuse the loose soil and mudbricks as fertilizers for their fields. At Edfu they left two empty areas, the so-called North and South Quarries, where settlement remains were cleared down to the natural bedrock. This destructive activity was stopped only after World War II. From 1921 to 1939 Tell Edfu was excavated by several Institut Français d’Archéologie Orientale (IFAO) and Franco-Polish missions exploring the Byzantine, Roman, and Ptolemaic settlement remains on top of the tell, as well as the Old and Middle Kingdom cemeteries that occupy the southwestern corner of the site.

The current Tell Edfu Project started in 2001 on a relatively small scale, focusing on the study of the visible enclosure walls in order to analyze the development of this provincial capital. During the first three seasons of this survey we have identified the Old Kingdom town center, which lies quite close to the Ptolemaic temple. Remains of the oldest town walls are visible in the eastern part of the tell, running along its southern end where they seem to have formed a corner turning eastward. Further elements have been detected in the north, where five walls are clearly visible in the exposed vertical cuts left by the *sebbakhin*. These walls can be dated by ceramic evidence to the Fifth and Sixth Dynasties. Furthermore, the archaeological evidence shows clearly that several new enclosure walls were erected during the First Intermediate Period incorporating a much larger area than before. Fortified town walls dating to this period have been identified in the northern and southwestern part of the site. Thus, the town expanded westward to almost double its size, from about 7 ha to at least 13 ha. This is a period which has generally been regarded as the “First Dark Age” of ancient Egyptian history, a theory that needs to be revised in view of new evidence from Tell Edfu and other provincial towns in Upper Egypt.

From 2005 onward the Supreme Council of Antiquities (SCA) granted us permission to start archaeological fieldwork at the site. The main structures that have been excavated so far are a large silo courtyard of the Seventeenth Dynasty (1630–1520 B.C.) consisting of at least seven round silos which have a diameter between 5.5 and 6.5 meters, making them the largest examples so far discovered within a town center. Storage installations of such kind have been poorly investigated but played a crucial role in the redistributive character of the ancient Egyptian economy. In an earlier building phase a hall with sixteen wooden columns stood in this place, which was later used for the granaries. According to the pottery and seal impressions found within this context, this columned hall can be dated to the early Thirteenth Dynasty (1773–1650 B.C.). The seal impressions were made with scarab seals and provide much evidence for the administrative

activities taking place, such as accounting and the opening and sealing of papyri, boxes, ceramic jars, and other commodities.

The 2007 season of the Tell Edfu Project took place from the 3rd of October until the 1st of November 2007. The members of the mission were Natasha Ayers (drawings and small finds), Barbara Böhm (pottery), Richard Bussmann (small finds), Georges Demidoff (Egyptology), Dominique Farout (ostraca and texts), Gregory Marouard (archaeology, Ptolemaic houses), Aurelie Schenk (archaeology), Jane Smythe (pottery), and Nico Staring (archaeology). The SCA inspector has been Osama Ismail Ahmed.

### Silo Area

One of the main tasks for this season was to find the limits of the large silo court discovered during the previous seasons (fig. 2). A large amount of rubbish and debris, almost three meters thick, covering the archaeological remains south and east of the silos discovered in previous years, has been removed. This layer of debris turned out to be much thicker than previously thought and was left mainly by the former French excavations and the *sebbakhin*, a fact confirmed by various finds such as some pages of an Arabic newspaper from 1914. The pottery coming from these layers was carefully checked for its date but turned out to be of very mixed periods, mainly Coptic and Roman. Numerous grinding implements of various hard stones such as red granite were also found here, left by the former excavations and without context. They were recorded and added to the catalog of small finds. In the east of the silo area we were finally able to reach some undisturbed occupation levels which had been cut into by the *sebbakhin*, leaving some holes but much of the stratigraphy still intact. The precise excavation and study of these remains, which seem to belong to numerous buildings, will be carried out next season. We also identified several stratigraphic sequences that are still in situ and linked to the large ash layer as well as the square storage compartments covering much of this area. One of the main problems with dating these remains so far has been the total lack of intact stratigraphy because of the French excavations in the 1930s. In the south, the eastern half of Silo 393 was discovered, as well as a new silo (Si 502) in the same alignment as the previous ones. This one is founded on a much higher level but shows the same architectural features as Silos 405 and 393. In parts only one course of mudbricks has been preserved. The corner of some mudbrick walls was excavated southeast of Silo 502 and this corner seems to be the only remaining part of the original enclosure wall of the silo courtyard (fig. 3). This needs also to be studied

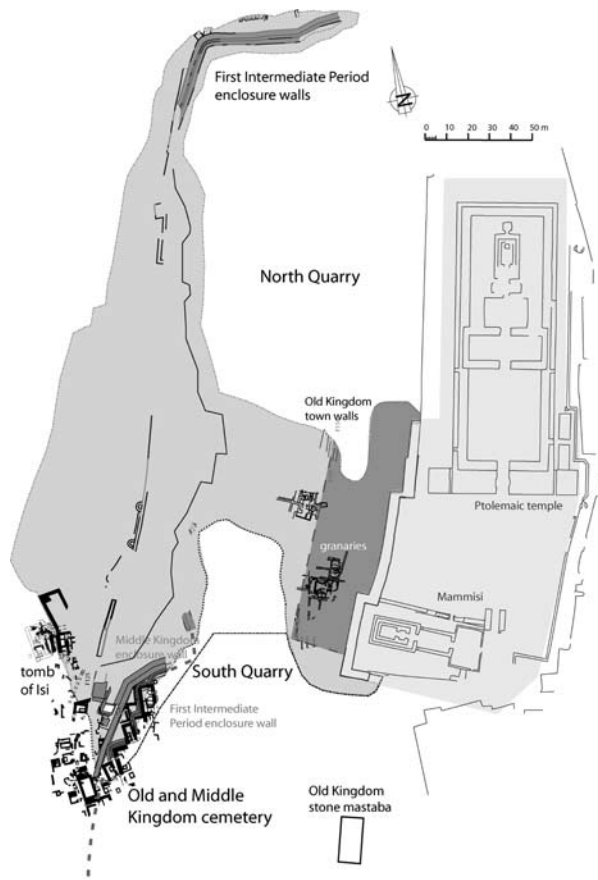


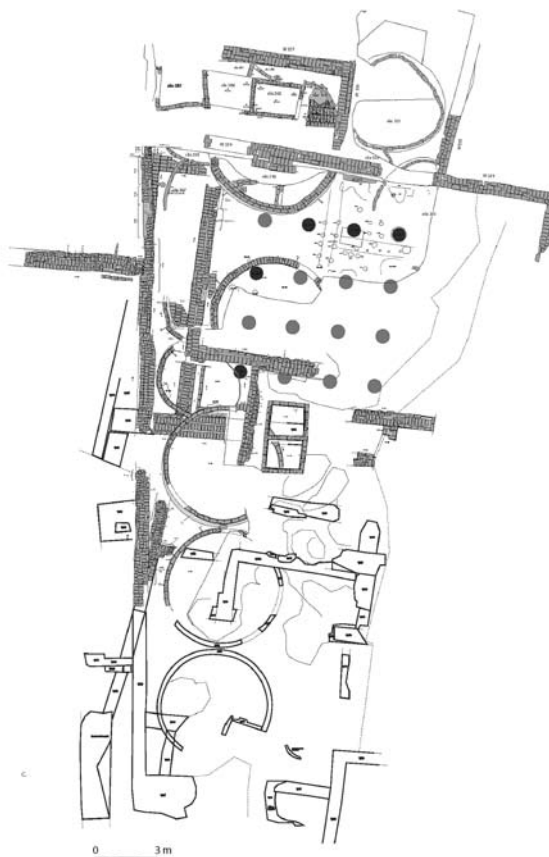
Figure 1. General plan of Tell Edfu

in further depth next season, but it seems almost certain that Silo 502 is the last silo of this storage installation in the south.

Furthermore, the long north–south wall running west of the silos (Wall 300) was investigated and cleared in order to clarify its different architectural features. It is clear that it had been in use for a long time and was frequently rebuilt. One of these phases is contemporary with the silos, which means we can identify it as the western enclosure wall. Additionally, the clearance of the sand and debris layers just next to this wall led to the discovery of further elements of the Old Kingdom enclosure walls (fig. 4), clearly visible in the southeastern part of the North Quarry as well as in the northeast corner of the South Quarry (see fig. 1).

## Columned Hall

Another aim of this season was the excavation of the thick mud floor belonging to the columned hall of the late Middle Kingdom (figs. 2 and 5). The compact mud floor with its five sandstone column bases preserved in situ was excavated this season. Last season we were able to reconstruct a columned hall with sixteen wooden columns belonging to the administrative center of the town. The floor associated with this building consists of a multitude of sub-floor phases. The last layer of occupation, which lies directly on top of the thick mud floor, is characterized by a large quantity of broken pottery and animal bones (fig. 6) that seem to correspond to the last phase of activity within this structure before its abandonment. Several layers of the mud floor were excavated until we reached a phase that showed numerous holes in the floor, most of which were still covered by a later floor phase (fig. 7). The holes were carefully cleared of their contents and turned out to be quite shallow, ca. 5–8 cm deep  $\times$  15–20 cm in diameter. They were filled with broken pieces of Middle Kingdom drinking cups as well as seal impressions and organic remains. Several new seal impression motifs have been found, one of which shows the king wearing the crown of Upper and Lower Egypt with a tiny cartouche in front of him (fig. 8). It is most likely Amenemhat III; research is in progress. Others show spiral ornaments and signs typical for the period between the end of the Twelfth and the early Thirteenth Dynasty. The arrangement of these holes seems to follow a regular pattern and the sides of the holes show impressions left by heavy objects pressing down on the surface. These observations seem to exclude their possible function as postholes and suggest that they were used to place large pottery jars. Close parallels have been found at Buhen, where comparable holes were



*Figure 2. Preliminary plan of silo area and columned hall at Tell Edfu*



discovered in the floor of the Commander's Building. Here, the base of a round jar was found in situ in one of the holes.

When a new floor was added on top, these holes were completely covered and invisible in the later phases of the columned hall. It is quite likely that the use of the columned hall as administrative center, which has been well confirmed by the associated finds, stretched over a considerable amount of time, extending back into the earlier Twelfth Dynasty, a fact that can be confirmed by the ceramic analysis.

### Study and Cleaning of Ptolemaic Houses

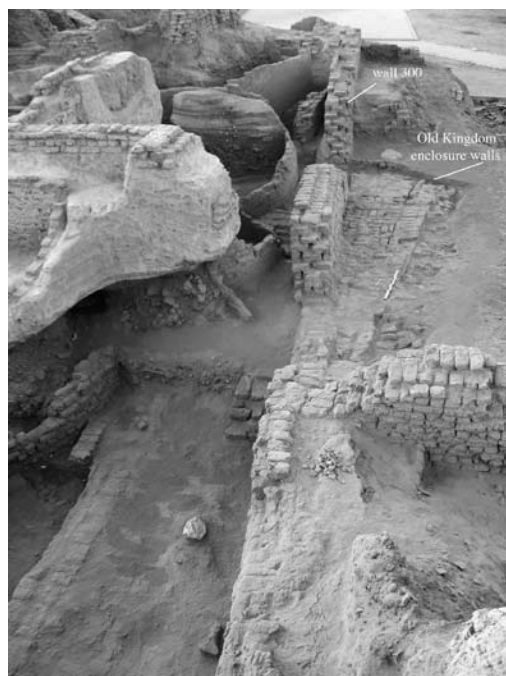
This season, eight domestic buildings dating to the Ptolemaic and Roman periods along the western part of the tell were partially cleaned by Gregory Marouard in order to clarify their architectural features and details. A comparison was made with the already published information from the excavations in the 1930s, when this area of the tell was excavated by the Franco-Polish mission. It turned out that the publication of the plans of the houses are to some extent lacking precision, especially with regard to the details of the mudbrick walls and vaults, which have been very sketchily documented and are therefore missing many important details. The excellent state of preservation of these houses and the insufficiency of the accuracy in the publications justifies a more detailed study in the future.

### Small Finds

During the 2007 season, analysis and drawing of material from the 2005 and 2006 seasons was carried out by Natasha Ayers and Richard Bussmann. Most of the finds excavated this season came from the rubbish layer, context 2218. A large number of stones (grinding stones, worked stone, etc.) also came from the same layer. The ostraca analyzed and photographed this year are also mostly from context 2218. Thirteen new ostraca have been recovered; most are Demotic, but



*Figure 3. Silo 502 and the corner of the silo court enclosure wall*



*Figure 4. Parts of the Old Kingdom enclosure wall on the surface*

## TELL EDFU

some are inscribed with Coptic texts. Two very small pieces of hieratic ostraca were found in the area of the columned hall, one inside the mud floor. Their texts were copied in detail for further translation. Jar stoppers and net sinkers constitute the majority of the small finds recovered this year. Seal impressions were recovered from the holes in the floor of the columned hall. A variety of designs that are typical of the late Twelfth and early Thirteenth Dynasties are present. All were described and photographed.

### Pottery

Analysis and recording of all pottery sherds continued during the third season of work at Tell Edfu. Preliminary analysis of the pottery material from the past two seasons was completed. A total of 200 contexts containing these potsherds were analyzed; we were able to produce preliminary dates for 122 of these contexts.

From each of the contexts a number of diagnostic sherds were separated for recording and further fabric description. Technical drawing and fabric description was conducted in the field by Jane Smythe, Barbara Böhm, and Nico Staring. A total of twenty-five contexts were completed with preliminary dates given; these will be the focus of further study and dating refinement. A number of imported pottery has also been found within various contexts, including a Mycenaean ware from context 2224 that can be clearly dated to the New Kingdom. Levantine/Canaanite fabrics have also been documented. As expected, there are also significant amounts of Nubian pottery sherds coming from the Middle Kingdom layers. All imported fabrics have been kept for future analysis by specialists. It is hoped that work will continue in the following seasons with the aim to complete the drawings and analysis of the remaining and future contexts that come from the tell.

The next season at Tell Edfu will focus on further study of the granary courtyard and the columned hall by extending the excavation area toward the north and east. Ancient Egyptian administration is mainly known from texts, but the full understanding of the institutions involved



*Figure 5. The columned hall showing thick mud floor and the discovered holes*



*Figure 6. Last layer of occupation of the columned hall*



*Figure 7. Holes in the mud floor of the columned hall*



*Figure 8. Seal impressions of the Twelfth Dynasty showing the king wearing the crown of Upper and Lower Egypt*

and their role within towns and cities has been so far difficult to grasp because of the lack of archaeological evidence with which textual data needs to be combined.

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In the name of the director and the whole team, we would like to thank the Edfu Inspectorate and the Supreme Council of Antiquities in Cairo for their help and support. A special thank you also goes to Ms. Faten Abd El-Halim Saleh for her help with the paperwork and its Arabic translation.

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## INDIVIDUAL RESEARCH

### Richard H. Beal

**Richard H. Beal** spent this past year writing some of the more complicated verbs for the third fascicle of the Hittite Dictionary's Š volume. Further time was spent copy editing portions of the volume. Outside of dictionary work, his review of the *Akten des IV. Internationalen Kongresses für Hethitologie* appeared in the *Journal of the American Oriental Society*. He wrote the article "Hittites" for an encyclopedia of the Classical world. In addition, he wrote the articles for the *Reallexikon der Assyriologie* on "Šakuwašša," "Šalawana," and "Šerišu." For the same multi-volume work he wrote more substantial articles on Hittite and Late Bronze Age Levantine ships and shipping ("Schiffe") and on plague ("Seuche") in the Hittite kingdom. More recently, he has been working on a review of a festschrift written in honor of his Chicago Hittite Dictionary colleague, Silvin Košak, who for many years since has been working on Hittite at the University of Mainz.

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### Robert D. Biggs

**Robert D. Biggs** devoted quite a bit of time to the final stages of the publication of papers from the 2005 Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale (co-editors Jennie Myers and Martha Roth), published by the Oriental Institute in early 2008 (SAOC 62), as well as reading proofs for the final volume (U/W) of the Assyrian Dictionary. He has been working on the Pre-Sargonic and Sargonic (mid-third millennium B.C.) cuneiform texts from the Inanna Temple at Nippur for the publication for which McGuire Gibson has received a grant. Biggs is collaborating with Karen Wilson on the publication of the first two seasons (1963 and 1965, when he was a member of the small team headed by the late Donald Hansen) of excavations at Abu Salabikh in Iraq; he published the inscriptions from the excavations in 1974, but most of the other finds and the architecture remain unpublished at this time.

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### Scott Branting

**Scott Branting** began the year by receiving the position of Research Assistant Professor. He also continues to serve as the director of the Center for Ancient Middle Eastern Landscapes (CAMEL), the co-director of the Kerkenes Dağ archaeological project in central Turkey, and a participant in the MASS project. All three of these projects can be found in their separate *Annual Report* sections. He concluded the year anxiously awaiting the imminent birth of his first son.

During 2007–2008 Branting presented papers at the annual meetings of the Archaeological Institute of America, the Society for American Archaeology, in the AGENT 2007: Complex Interaction and Social Emergence Conference, and in the Modeling Mesopotamia Symposium. He gave public lectures in the Oriental Institute Members' Lecture Series (co-sponsored by the Museum of Science and Industry), the Know Your Chicago Program (Graham School of General

## INDIVIDUAL RESEARCH

Studies), a series of lectures at the State University of New York at Buffalo (co-sponsored by the Geography and Anthropology Departments and the National Center for Geographic Information and Analysis), an Oriental Institute Museum Docent Lecture, and at the Oriental Institute sponsored by the Oriental Institute and the Chicago Turkish Consulate.

Various articles were also published during the year. These include: “Using an Urban Street Network to Analyze Ancient Activities” in *Computer Applications and Quantitative Methods in Archaeology 2006*; “Geospatial Data and Theory in Archaeology, a view from CAMEL” with J. Trampier in *Space – The Final Frontier? An Intercontinental Approach*; “Urban Studies” with G. Summers in *Kerkenes News 2007*; “Laetoli Pliocene Environments Revisited: Stratigraphic and Taphonomic Context” with C. Musiba, C. Magori, F. Ndunguru, S. Kilindo, D. Kamamba, and R. Tuttle, in *Hominin Environments in the East African Pliocene: An Assessment of the Faunal Evidence*; and “SHULGI: A Geospatial Tool for Modeling Human Movement and Interaction” with Y. Wu, R. Srikrishnan, and M. R. Altaweel in *Proceedings of the Agent 2007 Conference on Complex Interaction and Social Emergence*.

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### Fred M. Donner

**Fred M. Donner** spent the academic year 2007–08 on a leave of absence, pursuing a project on the early development of Arabic-Islamic political vocabulary, for which he was awarded a John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Fellowship. His hypothesis is that the early community of Believers — the forerunner of what we know as the community of Muslims — underwent a change in self-conception in the period around A.D. 680–720. The Believers had originally focused on the ideas of strict monotheism, the coming of the Last Judgment, and the need to observe strictly God’s law (as revealed in the Hebrew Bible, the Gospels, and the Qur’an). This meant that the community of Believers also included some righteous Christians and Jews, as well as “Qur’anic” Believers (whom we would call Muslims). With time, however, the leaders of the Believers’ movement began to focus more closely on the Qur’an as the true revelation, which they held to be superior to the others, and on the person of the prophet Muhammad, who had first instigated the Believers’ movement through his preaching and building of a new community. It is at this time that the community shifted from being a community of Believers to being a community of Muslims, restricted to those who revered the Qur’an. During this process of redefinition, the Muslim leadership made an effort to re-name various political and communal institutions and practices that had grown up in the initial, “Believerish” phase of the community’s history, by attaching to these institutions and practices terms drawn from the Qur’an. In this way, they attempted to legitimate these institutions and practices in “Islamic,” that is, Qur’anic, terms.

The only way to test this hypothesis is to see if actual documents from the first Islamic century (seventh century A.D.) — that is, from the “Believerish” phase in the community’s history — provide hints that other terms, different from the usual Qur’anic terms that have since become well established, were in use for various institutions and practices. Few actual documents survive from this period in the community’s history; the most important are undoubtedly Arabic papyri. Donner’s research consequently took him to some of the most important collections of Arabic papyri in Europe — in Paris, Strasbourg, Heidelberg, Vienna, and Oxford — to look for traces of what we might call “pre-Qur’anic” terminology referring to various institutions and practices. He

spent the period from September 1, 2007, to mid-January 2008, and again from roughly April 1 to mid-August, 2008, in these collections.

During the year, Donner delivered several lectures. “Visions of the Islamic Conquests: Between the Heroic and the Horrific” was presented at a conference held at the American University of Beirut in July 2007. In October, he presented his ideas on the transformation of early Islamic political vocabulary at the Sorbonne in Paris. In May, he delivered a talk on the Arabic word *fath* and whether, as is the norm, we should translate it as “conquest,” at the École Pratique des Hautes Études in Paris. He also served as final commentator at a conference held in Paris in mid-May on “Documents et Histoire.”

The year 2007–2008 saw the appearance of Donner’s article, “Qur’anic *Furqan*,” in *Journal of Semitic Studies*, a book review, and a volume entitled *The Expansion of the Early Islamic State*, for which Donner selected the articles and wrote the Introduction and provided a bibliography; the last-mentioned was published by Ashgate in the series *The Formation of the Classical Islamic World*. During the year, he also submitted for publication the manuscripts for two further books and three articles. The books include a second Ashgate volume on *The Articulation of Early Islamic State Structures* (again, Donner provided an Introduction, bibliography, and selected the articles), and a monograph entitled *Muhammad and the Believers: At the Origins of Islam*, which has been accepted for publication by Oxford University Press. The articles include the written versions of the papers mentioned above, on “Visions of the Islamic Conquest” and “Does Arabic *fath* Mean ‘Conquest?’”, and an article (still under consideration) entitled “The Holy Man in Late Antique and Early Islamic Syria.”

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## Geoff Emberling

**Geoff Emberling** returned to northern Sudan in winter 2008 as co-director (with Bruce Williams) of the Oriental Institute Nubian Expedition. Their work in the Fourth Cataract salvage project is reported elsewhere in this volume. The team excavated one Kerma cemetery completely (about 105 burials) and began work in a slightly later cemetery, as well as conducting a survey of a small seasonal island in the Nile called Umm Gebier. This season did not produce results as immediately spectacular as last year, when we found an ancient gold-extraction site, but the burials in particular present rich possibilities for further research on an ancient rural community. The National Corporation for Antiquities and Museums in Sudan has provisionally offered the Expedition a substantial gift of finds from their work, and it is hoped this will develop into an interesting exhibit in Chicago. Geoff published a brief popular article on the 2007 season in the Italian magazine *Pharaon* (“Alle fonti dell’oro”), and a longer scholarly report has been submitted to the Gdansk Archaeological Museum African Reports series as a tribute to the generosity of the Gdansk mission, which allowed the Chicago team to work in their concession. Geoff also gave lectures on the season’s finds to several different audiences in Chicago.

In the course of developing special exhibits and associated symposia, Geoff gave a lecture on “Geographical Knowledge in the Ancient Near East” here at the Oriental Institute and co-edited, with Katharyn Hanson, a book of essays on looting in Iraq which served as the Institute’s special exhibit catalog, *Catastrophe! The Looting and Destruction of Iraq’s Past* (OIMP 28).

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Geoff once again co-taught, with Seth Richardson, an undergraduate core class, “The Assyrian Empire” with the help of Teaching Assistant Alexandra Witsell. This continues to be an excellent collaboration.

Geoff has continued over the past year to work as time allows on constructing the final stratigraphic sequence of the third-millennium B.C. “Temple Oval” at Tell Brak in northeastern Syria, which he excavated with co-director Helen McDonald from 1998 to 2004. They have made significant progress in making stratigraphic connections over a very large excavation area, as well as the more mundane tasks of data entry and database organization. Geoff has also continued to develop his ideas about the rise of Tell Brak as a city in the fourth millennium B.C. in lectures in Chicago and Toronto.

Finally, Geoff has continued to present and develop ideas about museums in lectures in Milwaukee and Toronto. As the model of the Oriental Institute suggests, museums do not have to base their value on acquiring antiquities. Rather, research and new discoveries can be a basis for generating interest in our field and educating the public.

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### François Gaudard

**François Gaudard** continued his work as a Research Associate for the Chicago Demotic Dictionary (see separate report). He collaborated with Rodolphe Kasser, Marvin Meyer, and Gregor Wurst on the publication of the second edition of *The Gospel of Judas* (Washington, D.C.: National Geographic, 2008). The new edition of this fascinating and much-debated Coptic Gnostic text presents a thoroughly updated translation that reflects the recent placement of additional fragments, as well as expanded footnotes providing further information on difficult or controversial passages.

In the course of the year, Gaudard also wrote articles and book reviews which, for the most part, are now in press. He is currently working on several text editions, such as the publication of mummy labels. In 2007 Gaudard was contacted by Sofía Torallas Tovar and Raquel Martín Hernández to join the Mummy Labels Database (MLD) project, hosted by the Instituto de Lenguas y Culturas del Mediterráneo y Oriente Próximo, Centro de Ciencias Humanas y Sociales – CSIC, Madrid. This project is focused on making the approximately 2,500 known mummy labels already published in various series, journals, and monographs easily accessible to scholars as an online database. In addition, the project also aims to publish as many of the still-unpublished labels as possible, as well as republish all those that have been defectively or incompletely edited. A full description in six different sections will be given for each label. The mummy labels of the Oriental Institute’s collection will be included and published in the database. Gaudard is indebted to Gil Stein, Geoff Emberling, John Larson, Helen McDonald, and Susan Allison, and he would like to take this opportunity to thank all of them for their help and invaluable assistance.

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### McGuire Gibson

This past year, **McGuire Gibson** was guest curator of the Catastrophe! The Looting and Destruction of Iraq’s Past exhibit at the Oriental Institute Museum, wrote an introduction and an



essay for the catalog, and gave two talks at its openings. He also spoke, with Dr. Nada Shabout, about the destruction of Iraq's cultural heritage at the Aurora Forum of Stanford University. He participated in a joint program on Iraq's heritage with Dr. Donny George at the Hyde Park Art Center. He was one of two speakers on "Non-use of Experts in Iraq" for the Social Science Research Council in Washington, D.C. He spoke at a meeting on "Iraq and Its Neighbors" at the Hollings Center in Istanbul that was co-sponsored by The American Academic Research Institute in Iraq (TAARII), of which he is president. He also spoke to University of Chicago Alumni groups in Milwaukee and Denver, and to general audiences in Chicago, New York, and London. At the National Press Club in Washington, he was a featured speaker at the launching of the book, *Antiquities under Siege* (ed. L. Rothfield), in which he authored a chapter. He took part in the 6th International Congress on the Archaeology of the Ancient Near East in Rome. In May, he worked for three weeks in Amman with Iraqi archaeologists and a former student, Dr. Mark Altaeweel, to ready for publication reports in English and Arabic on excavations conducted by the Iraqi colleagues. Mark and the Iraqis were actually in Istanbul because of visa difficulties for the Iraqis. Gibson kept in touch with the others by e-mail. One of the excavations being published is Iraqi work done at Tell Asmar (ancient Eshnunna) in 1999 and 2000. Tell Asmar was the focus of a major expedition by the Oriental Institute in the 1930s, so this new material is of special relevance to us. All of this work with the Iraqis is sponsored by TAARII with funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities. The three years in which the project has been functioning have seen the appearance of four reports, with two others in press and at least three more to be sent to publishers. Gibson is the director of the project and the final editor of the English reports. During the current year, five other articles and a book review of his appeared in books and journals.

Besides serving as the president of TAARII, he still represents the University of Chicago on the board of directors of the American Institute for Yemeni Studies. He is also on the board of the Council of American Overseas Research Centers.

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### Petra M. Goedegebuure

**Petra M. Goedegebuure** continued publishing and writing on the linguistics of Hittite and related Anatolian languages, such as Hieroglyphic and Cuneiform Luwian, and Lycian. Her research interests cover four different, but sometimes interrelated, fields of linguistics: discourse cohesion, deixis, information structure, and typological language change in contact situations. Petra also participates half-time in the Chicago Hittite Dictionary Project as academic contributor (see *Project Reports*).

In the next academic year, Petra will conclude her studies on the deictic system in the Anatolian languages. While the Hittite demonstrative system will be described in a monograph (*Reference, Deixis and Focus in Hittite: The Demonstratives ka- "this", apa- "that" and asi "yon," Studien zu den Boghazköy-Texten* [Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz]), the Luwian demonstrative system is explored in a series of articles. The first one, in which she discovered the ablative forms of the Hieroglyphic Luwian demonstrative pronouns, was published this year ("The Hieroglyphic Luwian Demonstrative Ablative-instrumentals *zin* and *apin*," in *VI Congresso Internazionale di Ittitologia, Roma, 5-9 settembre 2005*, Studi Micenei ed Egeo-Anatolici 49/1, edited by Alfonso Archi and Rita Francia, pp. 319-34 [Rome, 2007]). This discovery led to the re-analysis of a few forms which were until then considered as ablatives but now turn out to be datives. This

## INDIVIDUAL RESEARCH

shift allowed Petra to reconstruct the Proto-Indo-European pronominal dative-locative based on Hittite, Luwian, and Lycian, by using regular sound laws. The results are submitted as “The Luwian Demonstratives of Place and Manner” in a festschrift (monograph series of the Tel Aviv University Institute of Archaeology) edited by Itamar Singer. The final offshoot of the initial article is a re-analysis of another form that was always understood as an instrumental, but that is now found to be an adverb that has no connections with the demonstratives whatsoever. Again, there are some repercussions for the reconstruction of Proto-Indo-European. This finding will be presented at the 7th International Conference of Hittitology in Çorum, Turkey, August 25–30, 2008. This article especially will lead to a better understanding of some Cuneiform Luwian texts, which are often very difficult to translate.

Information structure deals with word-order phenomena at clause level. Petra was invited as a keynote speaker at the Arbeitstagung der Indogermanischen Gesellschaft, Pragmatische Kategorien: Form, Funktion und Diachronie, held in Marburg, Germany, September 24–26, 2007, to provide a framework for how to use modern linguistic theories on information structure for the description and better understanding of extinct languages (“Linguistics and Long-extinct Languages: A Case Study of Focus in Hittite,” September 24, 2007, to be published). Modern linguistics and dead languages seem difficult to reconcile. It is Petra’s view that this is a problem of method, not of linguistics or the nature of the language corpus. The traditional way of approaching language description is to ask for the function of a form (the semasiological approach). Petra, however, shows that this approach very often fails with languages that are only transmitted in writing. Instead, she reverses the approach and asks for the forms that match a certain functional category (the onomasiological approach). This approach is also exemplified in an article on Hittite question words for the journal *Linguistics* (reviewed and accepted; “Focus Structure and Q-word Questions in Hittite,” in *Interpersonal Grammar: A Cross-linguistic Perspective*, special issue of *Linguistics*, edited by Evelien Keizer and Mirjam van Staden).

One of Petra’s other interests is typological language change in contact situations. This linguistic field allows her to incorporate sociopolitical and cultural elements that are otherwise absent from the other, purely linguistic specializations. She finished two articles dealing with cultures and languages in contact: “Central Anatolian Languages and Language Communities in the Colony Period: A Luwian-Hattian Symbiosis and the Independent Hittites,” in *Anatolia and the Jazira During the Old Assyrian Period*, Old Assyrian Archives, Studies, vol. 3 (= PIHANS 111), edited by J. G. Dercksen, pp. 137–80 (Leiden: The Netherlands Institute for the Near East, 2008); and “Hattian Origins of Hittite Religious Concepts: The Syntax of ‘to drink (to) a deity’ (again) and Other Phrases,” in *Journal of Ancient Near Eastern Religions* 8/1 [in press]. Petra’s work on Hattian-Hittite contacts led to an invited presentation on July 25, 2007, for the workshop Limited Corpus Languages of the 53rd Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale in Moscow (submitted for the proceedings: “The Alignment of Hattian: An Active Language with an Ergative Base”).

Together with Dr. Dennis Campbell, Petra is writing about another contact situation, that of Hurrian and Hittite. Based on Campbell’s new analysis of some Hurrian clauses, Petra shows how the Hittite scribe completely misunderstood an originally Hurrian wisdom text but still managed to forge an acceptable Hittite narrative (provisional title: “Wise Hittite Mistranslations of a Hurrian Wisdom Text”).

Petra again taught Elementary Hittite II (reading of texts) with a small group of courageous and enthusiastic undergraduates. She also enjoyed co-teaching an undergraduate core class, History of the Ancient Near East: Ancient Anatolia and the Levant, open to graduates, with David Schloen and Theo van den Hout, and with the help of teaching assistant (and graduate student)

Laura Cappe. On two occasions, Petra guest-lectured in Dennis Pardee's Phoenician and Punic classes. In the first lecture she discussed some issues in the Phoenician-Luwian bilingual from Karatepe (early seventh century B.C., Cilicia, Turkey) by comparing features of both languages. In the second lecture, she explained her views on the Phoenician verbal system and the Northwest Semitic verbal system in general, which are different from the current schools of thought that either adhere to a tense system or to an aspectual system. As the interaction during these lectures has been very productive, she hopes in the near future to co-teach with Pardee on the Karatepe text.

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### Gene Gragg

The morphological database project **Gene Gragg** reported on last year has now officially become the "Cushitic-Omotc Morphological Archive" project (which felicitously or infelicitously yields the acronym "COMA"), supported by a Mellon Foundation Emeritus grant. COMA is to be a comparative-historical reference archive of all available morphological information on the Cushitic-Omotc languages, ultimately in their Afroasiatic context as part of the linguistic pre-history of the ancient Near East. The current phase aims at producing by the grant's end a digital reference work: "The Major Inflectional Categories of Cushitic: Part 1, Verb and Pronoun." Current work focuses on archiving all published sources of original data since the work of Almkvist and Reinisch in the 1870s and 1880s. Eventually the project aims at including unpublished material from field notes and reports archived in university collections in Europe and elsewhere. Underlying the project is the hope, expressed in the proposal, that concomitant work on the structure and query/display interface of the archive will result in "a tool for the organization, manipulation, and contrastive and analytical display of paradigmatic data, both within and among these language, and thus an instructive model for ways of dealing with large amounts of comparative morphological data."

As a first result of this project, Gragg was able to report to the 5th International Conference on Cushitic and Omotic held in Paris, April 16–18, 2008, in a paper, "Cushitic Verb Inflectional Classes Revisited," that aspects of Semitic/Berber-like internal inflection hitherto thought to be limited to the northernmost Beja branch (an ethnic group known already to the ancient Egyptians), are clearly recognizable in a distant cousin spoken in Kenya, and thus probably reconstructed for the family as a whole. A survey of another feature, negative verb conjugation, is being prepared for an upcoming meeting in Turin.

In this context, a relevant article from a recent conference has appeared in published form: "What Kind of Speech Community Is Represented by the 'Cushitic' Node?: Introduction to the Lexical Evidence" in *Akten des 7. internationalen Semitohamitistenkongresses (VII. ISHaK), Berlin 13. bis 15. September 2004* (= *Semitica et Semitohamitica Berloinensia* 5), edited by Rainer Voigt (Aachen: Shaker Verlag, 2007), pp. 211–36.

Finally, Gragg and Rebecca Hasselbach were the co-conveners and organizers of the 36th North American Conference on Afroasiatic Linguistics, held at Holiday Inn Chicago Mart Plaza, March 16–18.

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## Rebecca Hasselbach

This academic year saw the publication of two articles by **Rebecca Hasselbach**. “External Plural Markers in Semitic: A New Assessment,” which was published in the festschrift for Gene Gragg (*Studies in Semitic and Afroasiatic Linguistics in Honor of Gene B. Gragg*, Cynthia L. Miller, editor. SAOC 60), Hasselbach’s predecessor in the department, is a detailed study of the attested external plural markers in Semitic and other Afroasiatic language families, such as Egyptian, Cushitic, Chadic, and Berber, and suggests a new Proto-Semitic reconstruction of these morphemes. Furthermore, a review of Florence Malbran-Labat’s “Pratique de la grammaire akkadienne: Exercices et corrigés” written by Hasselbach was published in *Maarav* (13.2: 261–68).

The main research done by Hasselbach this academic year focused on her book project “Case and Grammatical Roles and Relations in Semitic,” for which she investigated previously proposed reconstructions, such as an original ergative alignment as opposed to the accusative alignment found in Classical Semitic languages. The results of this preliminary investigation were presented at the annual meeting of the American Oriental Society in Chicago in March 2008. Hasselbach further gave a lecture about early Semitic writing systems at the Humanities Day of the University of Chicago (October 2007), and about her current research, entitled “Semitics and Language Typology,” at the Franke Institute for the Humanities in November 2007. In addition, Hasselbach finished an article about the application of the comparative method in Semitic linguistics that will be published in an encyclopedia for Indo-European linguistics. This article discusses the history of Comparative Semitics and the development of the methodologies used in the field.

Besides her research projects and lectures, Hasselbach co-organized the Annual Meeting of the North American Conference on Afroasiatic Linguistics that was held in Chicago in March 2008. Attended by a great variety of scholars from North America, Europe, and the Middle East who work on Semitic and other Afroasiatic languages from a linguistic perspective, the conference, co-sponsored by NELC and the Oriental Institute, provided many new insights into the work that is currently done in the field of Semitic and Afroasiatic linguistics.

Hasselbach also continued her work as book review editor for the ancient fields for the *Journal of Near Eastern Studies* throughout the year.

## Harry A. Hoffner, Jr.

The big news publication-wise this year is the long-anticipated appearance on July 15, 2007, of the two-volume *A Grammar of the Hittite Language*, by Harry A. Hoffner, Jr., and H. Craig Melchert, published by Eisenbrauns of Winona Lake, Indiana. It is the first comprehensive grammar of the Hittite language in English since the classic *Comparative Grammar of the Hittite Language* by Edgar H. Sturtevant and Adelaide Hahn in 1933 (2nd rev. edition, 1951). The first volume comprises an exhaustive grammatical analysis of the Hittite language with copious citations and references to the texts. The second volume is a series of graded lessons for beginners in the study of the language. The timing of its appearance is appropriate since, as announced in the Summer 2008 issue of *News & Notes*, this year marks what would have been the 100th birthday of Oriental Institute Professor Hans G. Güterbock. For the authors of this two-volume grammar have dedicated it to three giants of Hittitology in whose shadow we all stand: Hans Güterbock, Emmanuel Laroche, and Heinrich Otten. Of the three, only Heinrich Otten is still living.

Congratulations to the Güterbock family on this milestone and many thanks to them for their continuing generous support for the Hittite Dictionary of the Oriental Institute, which Hans and Harry Hoffner founded.

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### Janet Johnson

This year **Janet Johnson** attended two major conferences: the Annual Meeting of the American Research Center in Egypt (held this year in Seattle) and the 25th International Congress of Papyrology (held in Ann Arbor, Michigan); she was one of the regional coordinators for the Papyrology meetings, organizing a side trip from Ann Arbor to Chicago for about thirty participants, enabling them to visit both the Field Museum and the Oriental Institute Museum, where a special exhibit on Greek and Egyptian papyri was set up for them. She also gave lectures on “Women in Ancient Egypt: Legal Equality, Social Differentiation, and Symbols of Sexuality and Fertility” (for the Chicago chapter of the American Research Center in Egypt) and “Cleopatra as CEO: Bureaucracy and Scandal in the Hostile Takeover of a First Century (BCE) Multinational” (for the Illinois Classical Conference). She submitted the manuscript of her article “Gender and Marriage in Ancient Egypt,” which will appear in the proceedings of a conference on marriage organized by the theological faculty of the University of Würzburg in 2007. She collaborated with Wendy Ennes and others in the Museum Education Office working on a Web site tentatively entitled Teaching the Middle East aimed at high school students and teachers; Jan’s portion of the project discusses “Self-identity in Ancient Egypt.” The work on the Web site is funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities. She was appointed Associate Editor of the *Journal of Near Eastern Studies*, published by the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations of the University of Chicago, and has learned first-hand the detailed efforts involved in bringing such a journal to press. While serving as the Oriental Institute representative on the Board of Governors of the American Research Center in Egypt, she also served as co-chairman of its Ad Hoc Committee for Governance and Ad Hoc Governance Implementation Committee, working to restructure this growing organization. As usual, much of her time was spent working on the Demotic Dictionary, detailed in a separate report.

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### W. Raymond Johnson

This year **W. Raymond Johnson** completed his thirtieth year working in Egypt, his twenty-ninth full year working for the Epigraphic Survey in Luxor, and his eleventh season as Field Director. This spring he wrote a chapter for the catalog of the exhibition Akhéaton et Néfertiti. Soleil et ombres des pharaons to be shown in Geneva, Switzerland, from October 16th, 2008, to February 1st, 2009, and then in Turin from February 26th to June 14th. He also wrote an article for the *Getty Conservation Institute Newsletter* with Luxor SCA Director Mansour Boraik entitled “Western Thebes: History, Change, and Challenges.” Branching out a bit from his work reuniting pharaonic stone sculpture and relief fragments, he recently identified the back of a marble, second-century A.D. Roman bust of the deified Antinous in the Pallazzo Altemps, Rome, which joins a marble face of Antinous in the Chicago Art Institute.

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## Walter E. Kaegi

**Walter E. Kaegi** spent most of his time revising his book manuscript “Byzantium and Islam in North Africa: Collapse and Expansion.” A modern Greek translation of his 2003 book *Heraclius Emperor of Byzantium* appeared under the title *Erakleios* (Athens, 2007). He read revised proofs for a chapter “Confronting Islam” for the *Cambridge History of the Byzantine Empire* (ed. by Jonathan Shepard, Cambridge University Press, 2008, pp. 365–95). He wrote an article that was completed, submitted, and accepted: “Did Heraclius Have More Sentimental Ties with Africa than Did His Christian Predecessors?” It is forthcoming in *Bible, Byzantium and Christian Orient: Studies for Stephen Gero at 65*.

He prepared revised versions of two 2003 articles for publication in a collective volume in France: “Les défaites de Byzance en Orient,” “Expansion musulmane: La conquête de l’Ouest,” [French translations of “Religious Elements in Muslim Conquests,” “North Africa”]. These were originally published in *Le Monde de la Bible* (no. 154, November 2003). He continued to be Editor of *Byzantinische Forschungen* and North American History Bibliographer for *Byzantinische Zeitschrift*.

He published four reviews: *Procopius of Caesarea*, by Anthony Kaldellis, for the *Journal of Near Eastern Studies* 66 (2007): 232–33; *Noble Ideals and Bloody Realities*, edited by N. Christie and M. Yazigi, for *Mamluk Studies Review* 11.2 (2007): 197–99; *General Issues in the Study of Medieval Logistics*, by John Haldon, for *Sixteenth Century Journal* 38/4 (Winter 2007): 1092–93; and *Byzantine Style, Religion and Civilisation In Honour of Sir Steven Runciman*, edited by E. Jeffreys, for *Catholic Historical Review* 2008, pp. 542–43.

He delivered one paper at a professional meeting: “Controversies about Constans II,” 33rd Byzantine Studies Conference, University of Toronto, 12 October 2007. Abstract published in *Abstracts, 33rd Annual Byzantine Studies Conference, University of Toronto*, p. 4.

He was elected President, U.S. National Committee for Byzantine Studies, 2007–2011. Duties include preparation of International Congress of Byzantine Studies, to be held in Sofia, Bulgaria, in 2011. He served as Vice-President for the University of Chicago Phi Beta Kappa Chapter during 2007–2008. He was nominated and elected President for University of Chicago Phi Beta Kappa Chapter for 2008–2009. He served on the senior committee to select a new chair for the History Department. He chaired the Roman History Search Committee for the History Department. The search was successful. He served on one Oriental Institute personnel committee and one separate NELC personnel committee for a Visiting Professor. He was Co-Director of the Workshop on Late Antiquity and Byzantium.

He chaired one History Department and one Program in the Ancient Mediterranean World doctoral dissertation and served as reader for one NELC dissertation. He was an external referee for four personnel cases at other universities. He served as reader for five undergraduate senior essays (four in History, one in NELC).

He visited Albania, including archaeological sites and museums, for the first time in June 2007. In August 2007, he participated in a three-week University of Chicago group travel program (graduate students with three faculty) to western Anatolian archaeological sites led by Classics Assistant Professor Emanuel Mayer. He attended “Days of Research,” 2<sup>e</sup> Journées d’étude sur l’Aurès antique, professional meeting of the Société d’études et de recherches sur l’Aurès antique, Compiègne, France, 6–8 September 2007. He then visited various ancient and medieval sites and museums in France for two more weeks.

## Carol Meyer

**Carol Meyer** continued work on the final publications of the Byzantine/Coptic gold-mining site at Bir Umm Fawakhir in the central Eastern Desert of Egypt. The manuscript of *Bir Umm Fawakhir Survey Project 1996–1997* was accepted for the Oriental Institute Publications series, reviewed, revised, and returned to the Oriental Institute Publications Office. Work on the 1999 excavations and the 2001 study season is under way, starting with the basic top plans, stratigraphy, and pottery corpus. In late winter 2007 Meyer participated in the Oriental Institute Nubian Expedition (OINE) at Al-Widay and Hosh el-Guruf in the Sudan. Over the past year she completed a report on her work with grinding and crushing stones at Hosh el-Guruf and the ancient gold mining there. In March 2008 Meyer, Dr. Robert Smither, and Dr. Douglas Robinson ran an experiment at the Advanced Photon Source<sup>1</sup> of Argonne National Laboratory to try to determine whether there was any gold in two samples of washed ore from the site. There was a trace amount in one sample, and the results were incorporated in Meyer's presentation on "Gold Ore from Hosh el-Guruf, Sudan" at the American Research Center in Egypt's Seattle Meeting in April 2008, and in her report, "Grinding Stones and Gold Mining at Hosh el-Guruf, Sudan." The latter will be included with the OINE 2007 article in Gdansk Archaeological Museum African Reports (GAMAR). In response to a request to organize a session on Medieval Islamic Mediterranean and Red Sea Trade for the International Medieval Congress in Leeds, England, in July 2007, Meyer presented a paper on "Alexandria after 'Amr.'" Contrary to almost all available histories, which ignore the entire period from the Islamic Conquest to the Napoleonic invasion, Alexandria remained a vital trading city throughout the Middle Ages. A revised and expanded version of the talk was presented to the Society of Woman Geographers in November 2007.

### Note

<sup>1</sup> Use of the Advanced Photon Source was supported by the U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Science, Office of Basic Energy Sciences, under Contract No. W-31-109-Eng-38. Data were collected on the X-ray Operations and Research beamline 6-ID-B at the Advanced Photon Source, Argonne National Laboratory.

## Nadine Moeller

**Nadine Moeller** spent most of Autumn Quarter doing fieldwork in Egypt. She is directing the Tell Edfu excavations, which are described in detail elsewhere in this *Annual Report*. After the Edfu season, she participated in the Louvre mission directed by Christophe Barbotin, which focuses on the restoration of the tomb of Merenptah in the Valley of the Kings (KV 8). Her main task was to complete a new plan of the whole tomb using the Total Station equipment of the Oriental Institute. Missing details such as a staircase along the descending corridor were added to the plan, as well as two of the four rooms connected to the main burial chamber with the sarcophagus. These small rooms have been cleared of numerous mud layers deposited by the occasional flash floods in the area, which until now had made them inaccessible for any study.

Several lectures about the latest results from the Edfu excavations followed during this year: November 26, 2007: talk at the British Council, Cairo (Egypt), entitled "Tell Edfu: Uncovering a Provincial Capital"; December 6, 2007: talk at Trinity College, Dublin (Ireland), Archaeological Society entitled "Tell Edfu: Recent Discoveries"; April 2, 2008: Oriental Institute Members' Lecture entitled "The Excavations at Tell Edfu"; April 24–28, 2008: paper given at the ARCE

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Annual Meeting in Seattle, entitled “The Archaeological Evidence for Town Administration: New Evidence from Tell Edfu”; May 12, 2008: lecture about Tell Edfu to the Visiting Committee of the Oriental Institute.

Furthermore, an article about the excavations at Tell Edfu was published in the science section of the *New York Times* by John N. Wilford on July 1, 2008, which has generated much international interest in the project. Nadine would like to thank Bill Harms from the University of Chicago News Office for his help and support with the press release.

Apart from preparing the next Edfu season (October–November 2008) and applying to various funding bodies (one of which was already successful: the Women’s Board of the University of Chicago will support the Tell Edfu project for the 2009 season), Nadine’s current research focuses on the study of Egyptian urbanism in general, which will be the main topic of a future monograph. She has also just finished an article entitled “The Influence of Royal Power on Ancient Egyptian Settlements from an Archaeological Perspective” for a forthcoming international conference proceedings *Elites et Pouvoir en Egypte Ancienne*, edited by Juan Carlos Moreno Garcia (CNRS, University of Lille 3, France).

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### Clemens Reichel

The academic year 2007–2008 was one of those that saw **Clemens Reichel** collect a lot of frequent-flyer mileage. In July 2007 he hosted a meeting of the Central Mesopotamia Group of ARCANE (Associated Regional Chronologies for the Ancient Near East and Eastern Mediterranean) in Blaubeuren, southern Germany. September and October saw him back at Hamoukar for a study and survey season (see separate report). Following a trip to Syria with Gil Stein in March 2008, he enjoyed the hospitality of Chicago House during a trip to Luxor, Egypt. In April/May Reichel was study leader on the Oriental Institute Travel Program On the Path of the Umayyads to Jordan, Syria, and Spain — a job he enjoyed immensely.

During the academic year Reichel presented two papers at national and international meetings and conferences: “Propaganda versus Realpolitik — Ruler Seals of Eshnunna from the Ur III and Isin-Larsa Period in Their Historical/Political Context,” held at the 218th meeting of the American Oriental Society (AOS) in Chicago (March 2008); and “Urbanism, Administrative Complexity and Warfare in Northeastern Syria during the Late Chalcolithic Period — The 2005 and 2006 Excavations at Tell Hamoukar in Northeastern Syria,” held at the 6th International Conference for the Archaeology of the Ancient Near East (ICAANE) in Rome (May 2008). In June 2008 he participated at a workshop on the Late Chalcolithic period in Cambridge, U.K., held in honor of Joan Oates’s eightieth birthday, and presented a paper titled “City and Conflict in Late Chalcolithic Hamoukar.”

After seventeen years in Chicago — ten as a student, seven as a Research Associate — Reichel will be leaving the Oriental Institute in November 2008 to accept an Assistant Professorship in Mesopotamian Archaeology at the University of Toronto, Canada. He would like to thank his teachers and colleagues for their support and friendship and hopes to see them again on frequent trips back.

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## Seth Richardson

Between teaching the ninety-eight students of his Neo-Assyrian empire, Mesopotamian History, Babylonian Knowledge, and Historiography classes, **Seth Richardson** was happy to shepherd several articles, notes, and reviews to publication while setting to work on several more.

Most important of the studies to appear was his “Babylonian Countrysides” article. Babylonia, touted as an urban civilization since its nineteenth-century A.D. rediscovery, was nevertheless in antiquity an overwhelmingly rural culture. Experimenting with an investigation of a “civilization of villages,” the essay looks at the wide variety of village types and terminologies, the appearance of rural zones in belles lettres and the law, and their role in shaping the development of ancient states. Shifting the focus of attention away from states and cities helps us see those entities as competitors for control over countrysides and their varied populations — in farming villages, fishing camps, trading posts, and military garrisons.

Aiding in this effort was data supplied by the Oriental Institute’s MASS Project, from which Carrie Hritz was able to generate mapped images such as the one shown in figure 1. The map displays in white the agricultural sustaining areas of all known and surveyed Babylonian settled areas of the period ca. 2100–1600 B.C., large and small, against a dark backdrop of uncultivated lands. Even the simple aspect of inverting the map’s color scheme highlights the minority of productive areas, their lack of contiguity, and the natural isolation of even large cities within their hinterlands. Seen through this lens, the Mesopotamian landscape appears dominated by countrysides rather than cities.

Also appearing was Richardson’s “Death and Dismemberment” study, which looked at deliberate inversions of funerary ritual and related ideal types of social practice as a way of elucidating ancient sentiments about mortality and practice. Corpse abuse and abandonment were powerful literary motifs that acted on and reflected Mesopotamian social anxieties about death and the body. Such anxieties were precisely the complex of hopes and fears that gave ideal and optimizing practices of funerals, burials, and the dead their operational force.

A reconsideration of a rare but critical Akkadian term (*girginakku*) led to Richardson’s conclusion in “*gir<sub>3</sub>-gen-na* and Šulgi’s ‘Library’” that its early use to mean “procedure” rather than “library” had implications for the early development of Mesopotamian liver-omen literature. If Šulgi’s important twenty-first-century B.C. mention of his “*gir<sub>3</sub>-gen-na* of omens” referred to his way of interpreting signs — rather than to his written collection of omens — this strongly supports an Old Babylonian authorship of the vast ominous corpus rather than a continuous compilation of observed phenomena.

As co-sponsor of the Ancient Societies Workshop for a third year, Richardson helped to welcome seventeen speakers for a year’s focus on urbanism. Workshop discussions ranged from

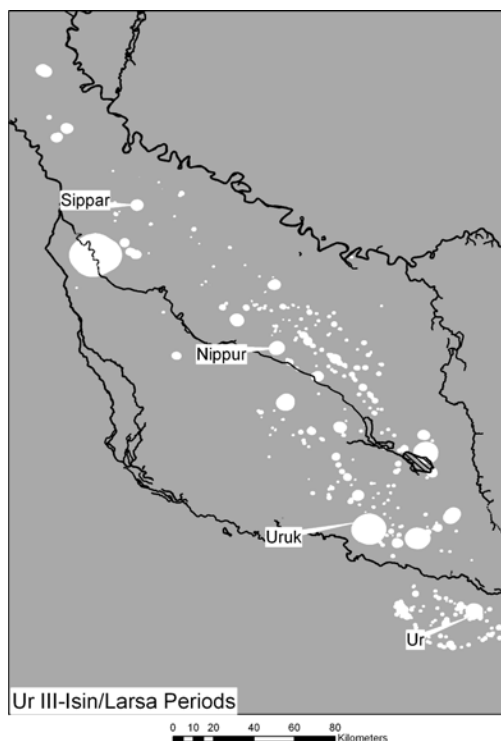


Figure 1

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early prehistoric urban forms to settlements of late antiquity — from early Syrian cities to Aramaean nomadic sedentarization to the city in Roman imperial ideology. He also spoke during the University of Chicago's Humanities Day on "How to Build a God: Mesopotamian Icons and Biblical Parodies," as well as delivering a paper on historical methodology at the Chicago meeting of American Oriental Society. For the coming year, he looks forward to a host of invited projects and lectures with the Association of Ancient Historians, the American Schools of Oriental Research, the Smart Museum, and Chicago's Humanities Festival. Last but not least should be the completion of work on his Old Babylonian historical monograph — and another full roster of students.

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### Robert K. Ritner

**Robert K. Ritner** spent much of the year on topics of Libyan and Egyptian interactions. He proofread his in-press monograph, *The Libyan Anarchy: Documents from Egypt's Third Intermediate Period*, and his article "Libyan vs. Nubian as the Ideal Egyptian" was published in *Egypt and Beyond: Studies Presented to Leonard H. Lesko upon his Retirement from the Wilbour Chair of Egyptology at Brown University, June 2005*, edited by Stephen E. Thompson and Peter Der Manuelian. At Leiden University on October 25, 2007, he opened the first academic conference on The Libyan Period in Egypt with a lecture on "Fragmentation and Re-integration in the Third Intermediate Period." In Dallas, on January 19, 2008, he discussed "The Restless Western Front: Libyan Interactions with Ancient Egypt" for the North Texas Chapter of the American Research Center in Egypt. On March 7 for the Oriental Institute symposium Nomads, Tribes, and the State in the Ancient Near East: Cross-Disciplinary Approaches, he detailed "Egypt and the Vanishing Libyan: Institutional Responses to a Nomadic People."

Three days later, he left for a month in Egypt to lead the Oriental Institute's Travel Program "Unseen Egypt," after which he conducted primary research in the Luxor blockyard to confirm his reconstruction of multiple wall fragments recording the story of "The Possession of Bentresh," otherwise known only from a damaged stela in the Louvre. The Luxor copy now completes this tale of magical healing by an Egyptian mission to Bactria, and the publication of Ritner's analysis and translation will ultimately be published in a new series by the Epigraphic Survey.

In keeping with Ritner's role as "ecumenical Egyptologist" examining Egyptian contacts with foreign peoples, he served in the summer as Egyptology consultant and staff member for the joint Turkish Ministry of Culture and Tourism and the Mustafa Kemal University Excavations at Tell Atchana, in Antakya/Hatay, Turkey, and during the year he analyzed and translated for eventual publication a series of unexpected Egyptian sealings associated with tablets from the Persepolis Fortification Archive.

Ritner's additional publications include "Household and Family Religion in Ancient Egypt," in *Household and Family Religion in Mediterranean and West Asian Antiquity: Comparative Perspectives*, edited by J. Bodel and S. Olyan; "Oriental Institute Museum Notes 15: A Coptic Lintel from Qustul," in *Journal of Near Eastern Studies* 67; and seven entries commissioned for the *World Book Encyclopedia*: "Anubis," "Cleopatra," "Horus," "Osiris," "Serapis," "Seth," and "Thoth." Two online publications include "Some Problematic Bipartite Nominal Predicates in Demotic" ([http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/bipartite\\_nominal\\_predicates.pdf](http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/bipartite_nominal_predicates.pdf)) and "Ptolemy IX (Soter II) at Thebes" ([http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/ptolemy\\_soter\\_II\\_at\\_thebes.pdf](http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/ptolemy_soter_II_at_thebes.pdf)).

Beyond the lectures already noted, Ritner spoke on “Magic in Ancient Egypt” for the Pennsylvania Chapter of the American Research Center in Egypt in its first expansion lecture outside of Philadelphia (State College, May 3), and for a lunch sponsored by the Dean of the Humanities, he provided “An Introduction to Ancient Egyptian Magic and Medicine” (June 3). On June 7, he repeated in Santa Ana, California, his popular five-lecture, all-day seminar on Magic and Medicine in Theory and Practice in Ancient Egypt, Curses and Love Charms, How a Temple Works, The Great Deities of Mythology, and The Function of Egyptian Art, sponsored by the Orange County Chapter of the American Research Center in Egypt, the Egypt Exploration Organization of Southern California, the Orange County Library, and the Bowers Museum.

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### Foy Scalf

**Foy Scalf** had a very busy and productive 2007–2008. In addition to taking over for Dr. Magnus Widell as Head of the Research Archives in October and defending his dissertation proposal entitled “Passports to Eternity: Formulaic Demotic Funerary Texts from Roman Egypt” in November, Foy presented a number of papers in the United States and abroad. In July, he presented a paper entitled “Unpublished Demotic Funerary Papyri from the Louvre” at the 25th International Congress of Papyrologists in Ann Arbor, Michigan. This paper presented information on a group of unpublished Roman period funerary papyri housed in the Louvre, which he had examined on a research trip in 2006. Foy participated in the panel “Culture and Society in Graeco-Roman Egypt” sponsored by the American Society of Papyrologists during the January meeting of the 139th American Philological Association meeting in Chicago where he presented a paper entitled “The Religious Significance of the Formulaic Demotic Funerary Texts,” seeking to re-orient the cursory manner in which past scholars have disregarded the importance of the last funerary texts to be written in the Egyptian tradition. During a research trip to the United Kingdom in May, he presented a paper entitled “Did the Book of the Dead Die?: The Funerary Literature of Ptolemaic and Roman Egypt” for *Portus: Liverpool Classics Research Seminars* in the Department of Classics and Ancient History of the University of Liverpool. In this lecture, Foy emphasized the creativity and vitality of the funerary text tradition in post-New Kingdom Egypt, addressing the questions of when the Book of the Dead disappeared and what replaced it.

A research trip to the Hesburgh Library of the University of Notre Dame provided Foy the opportunity to examine two Ptolemaic period linen fragments once used in mummification, which are inscribed with Book of the Dead spells in the hieratic script. These texts would have been written on long strips of linen used to wrap the mummy. They belonged to two men and further fragments from these strips have been identified in the British Museum. Foy also began work on an edition of a Roman period Book of Breathing, a hieratic funerary composition dating to the first or second centuries A.D., housed in the John Rylands Library in Manchester, England. Papyrus Rylands Hieratic 6, a copy of the First Book of Breathing, was written for a woman who is given the epithet “Hathor” throughout the text. A complete edition of this manuscript is planned for publication in 2009. Along with colleague Jackie Jay, Foy has developed a database for the Demotic ostraca kept in the collection of the Oriental Institute Museum that will go online in the fall of 2008. The Oriental Institute Demotic Ostraca Online (O.I.D.O.O.) project will make available to scholars all the Demotic ostraca in the Oriental Institute Museum through a series of

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quarterly updates over the next few years. An initial launch of the database containing roughly 300 texts will be announced at this summer's Demotic congress in Leuven, Belgium. Foy had his publication of the magical bricks housed in the Oriental Institute Museum, "The Magical Bricks of the Oriental Institute Museum," accepted for publication in *Studien zum altägyptischen Kultur* 39 (2009). In June he submitted an article to *Lingua Aegyptia* entitled "Statements of Identity and the M of Predication." This article argues against a long-held grammatical rule, which until now has never been proved or tested. He also submitted several reviews for the *Journal of Near Eastern Studies*.

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### Oğuz Soysal

In 2007–2008, **Oğuz Soysal** continued his job with the Chicago Hittite Dictionary Project. Much of his time has been spent writing articles on words beginning with "te- / ti-" and preparing the transliterations of the recent cuneiform edition *Keilschrifttexte aus Boğazköy*, Vol. 53, for the CHD files. His personal research has continued to focus on Hittite history, culture, and the Hattian language. Soysal published the following articles in 2007–2008: "KBo 8.67 (8/m) und KBo 17.23 (113/b): Ein indirekter Join und einige Bemerkungen zum Textinhalt," *Nouvelles Assyriologiques Brèves et Utilitaires* 2007 (no. 4): 87–90; and "Review of J. Hazenbos, *The Organization of the Anatolian Local Cults During the Thirteenth Century B.C.: An Appraisal of the Hittite Cult Inventories*" for the *Journal of the Near Eastern Studies* 67 (2008): 117–20. Furthermore, six more articles, including one on necrology, have been prepared and are awaiting publication.

In 2007, Soysal also devoted time to research activities mostly for international representations. He read two papers dealing with the enigmatic and highly controversial cult expression "to drink a deity" in Hittite: "A New Look at the Hittite Cult Term 'to drink a deity' in a Special Consideration of the Hattian Language" at the 53rd Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale, 23–28 July 2007, Moscow/Saint-Petersburg; and "Göttertrinken bei den Hethitern" at the Probevortrag held at the Ludwig Maximilians Universität, Munich, on December 20, 2007. In further connection to this subject, since January 2008 Soysal has examined the designations of the drinking vessels and cult drinking practices among the Hittites. The first results will be made public in a festschrift (Germany) and at the 7th Hittitological Congress in Çorum, Turkey, in August 2008.

In addition, Soysal, in cooperation with Dr. Rukiye Akdoğan, the curator of the Museum of Ancient Anatolian Civilizations in Ankara, has edited nearly four hundred unpublished tablets from Boğazköy with the siglum "AnAr" in a cuneiform publication entitled *Ankara Arkeoloji Müzesinde Bulunan Boğazköy Tabletleri II (ABoT II)*, which was successfully completed in May 2008. Dr. Akdoğan prepared the tablet copies while Soysal categorized the texts and supplied a catalog and an index for the book. This group of fragments consists mainly of very small pieces, thus their determination as to text genre has been a difficult two-year intensive project. Thanks to the lexical files of the Chicago Hittite Dictionary Project, it has been possible to find many duplicates to well-known compositions from Boğazköy. This will certainly further enrich the Hittite text corpus.

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## Gil J. Stein

In 2007–2008 **Gil J. Stein** presented two papers as a discussant at the annual meeting of the Society for American Archaeology (SAA), reflecting his research foci on inter-regional interaction, complex societies, economic systems, and zooarchaeology. Gil was invited to present comments on the session “Choice, Competition, and Livestock Management in Complex Societies — Negotiating Risk and Reward in Herding Practices,” organized by Erik Filean and Jennifer Piro, on March 30, 2008, in Vancouver, Canada. In this session, fourteen researchers explored the ways that zooarchaeologists can model the decision-making processes of ancient herders within their cultural and economic context. Gil was also invited to present discussant’s comments on the session “Regional and Inter-regional Interactions in Early East Asia,” organized by Anne Underhill (The Field Museum, Chicago, Illinois) and Zhichun Jing (University of British Columbia). This symposium brought together archaeologists from China, Japan, and Korea for the first time to examine recent research on regional interaction during the late prehistoric and early historic periods among the developing complex societies of those three hearths of civilization. The fifteen papers in this session discussed the nature of interactions that took place within and between China, Japan, and Korea, analyzing the social, economic, and political processes underlying them.

Gil has been continuing with the analysis of the stratigraphy and ceramics from his 1992–1997 excavations at the fourth-millennium B.C. town of Hacinebi in the Euphrates valley of southeast Turkey. Hacinebi was a local Anatolian town where merchants from the Uruk culture of southern Mesopotamia established a trading colony in about 3700 B.C. Oriental Institute volunteer Irene Glasner has helped the project make major progress by scanning the slides of the Late Chalcolithic small finds from Hacinebi. Gil has been collaborating with archaeological illustrator Jack Scott to produce composite top plans of the different Late Chalcolithic phases at Hacinebi. His main focus has been working with research assistant Dr. Belinda Monahan to prepare the ceramic typology from Hacinebi for publication. They hope to complete the statistical analysis and the final manuscript in the coming academic year.

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## Emily Teeter

In the last few *Annual Reports*, **Emily Teeter** has referred to ongoing work on two publications. The first of the projects that does not seem to want to end is the catalog of baked-clay figurines and votive beds from Medinet Habu. She is happy to report that it has been edited and laid out by the Publications Office, but its appearance has been delayed by the realization that it would be greatly improved by the addition of drawings of the votive beds. Thanks to artist Angela Altenhofen, the very complicated drawings are almost complete and the publication can move forward. The other long-term project is the monograph on ancient Egyptian religion that Emily hopes to deliver to the publisher late this year.

Publications for the last year include the essay “Temple Cults” in *The Egyptian World*, edited by Toby Wilkinson (New York: Routledge, 2007), and “A Family of Priests of the Deified Amunhotep I (Chicago OIM 11107),” in *Servant of Mut: Studies in Honor of Richard A. Fazzini*, edited by Sue D’Auria (Boston: Brill, 2008). Emily contributed a brief article to the Winter 2008 *News & Notes* entitled “Fakes, Phonies, and Frauds in the Egyptian Collection” that accompanies

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a new small exhibit in the Joseph and Mary Grimshaw Egyptian Gallery; she also submitted an entry for the UCLA Electronic Encyclopedia of Egyptology on the topic “feathers.”

This year has given Emily the opportunity to do a number of mummy research projects. She studied two coffins in the Mabee-Gerrer Museum in Shawnee, Oklahoma, and is doing a research project on the sarcophagus of Wenihotep in the Art Institute of Chicago. She continues her collaboration with Branislav Andelković of the University of Belgrade on two Ptolemaic coffins, and they hope to recover a Book of the Dead that is wrapped alongside the arm of their mummy of Nesmin. Fragments of the papyrus reveal that it is written in a fine clear hieroglyphic hand and so the prospect of unrolling it for translation and study is very exciting.

Emily participated in a joint Oriental Institute/Field Museum program on the relations between Nubia and Egypt. She spoke to the University of Chicago Women’s Alliance and gave Harper lectures in Phoenix and Detroit. She lectured at the Chrysler Museum (Virginia) on “Women in Ancient Egypt,” at the Mabee-Gerrer Museum on the antiquities trade, at the Albuquerque Museum of Art and History in conjunction with an Egyptian exhibit, and in February she delivered the annual Campbell Lecture at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. In May Emily attended the International Congress of Egyptologists in Rhodes, and then continued to Serbia where she gave a lecture to the Faculty of Philosophy at the University of Belgrade and delivered a paper on celibacy in ancient Egypt in the Near Eastern Archaeology session of the Annual Meeting of the Serbian Archaeological Society held in Zaječar.

Emily continues to be involved in the American Research Center in Egypt on a local and national level. She attended the Annual Meeting of ARCE in Atlanta where she gave a paper on the coffin of Nesmin in Belgrade. Emily extends her thanks to the Oriental Institute for its support of the local chapter through its generous donation of meeting space in the LaSalle Banks Room and the use of audiovisual equipment.

Other travel included serving on a lecture team for a tour from southern Spain to Malta via Algeria and Tunisia, and over the winter holiday Emily accompanied Tom and Linda Heagy and a group of their friends and children on a very special tour of Egypt.

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## Theo van den Hout

Over the past year **Theo van den Hout** continued his research on issues of record management, writing, and literacy in Hittite society. He prepared a talk for the 54th Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale in Würzburg, Germany, on the role of the Hittite cuneiform script as an instrument of power and administration in the early history of the Hittite kingdom, and submitted an article on text-dating issues and the origins of the typical Hittite cuneiform for the Italian journal *Incontri Linguistici*. Unrelated to these topics, he submitted two articles, one on the interpretation of a highly problematic Hieroglyphic Luwian passage and another with some philological notes on a group of Hittite texts. Both are intended for two volumes in honor of colleagues. Theo also prepared handcopies of some 250 Hittite clay fragments and wrote three book reviews for the *Orientalistische Literaturzeitung* and the *Zeitschrift für Assyriologie*.

Theo delivered lectures at the Humanities Open House and at the 218th Meeting of the American Oriental Society in Chicago. In November he gave in Amsterdam his inaugural lecture as corresponding member of the Royal Dutch Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Since the previous *Annual Report* the following publications have appeared in print: “Some Observations on the Tablet Collection from Maşat Höyük” in A. Archi and R. Francia (eds.), *VI Congresso Internazionale di Ittologia, Roma, 5–9 settembre 2005* (= SMEA 49 [2007] (2008)), pp. 387–98; and “A Classified Past: Classification of Knowledge in the Hittite Empire” in R. D. Biggs, J. Myers, and M. Roth (eds.), *Proceedings of the 51st Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale held at The Oriental Institute of The University of Chicago, July 18–22, 2005* (= SAOC 62), pp. 211–19. Van den Hout’s contribution to the sold-out Oriental Institute conference volume *Margins of Writing, Origins of Cultures* (OIS 2), edited by Seth Sanders, was reprinted with a new postscriptum (pp. 261–62) where he followed up on several points raised in the original article. Besides these, three entries in the *Reallexikon der Assyriologie* came out, as well as three reviews for the *Journal of the American Oriental Society*, the *Journal of Near Eastern Studies*, and *Kratylos*.

After about ten years’ delay, the *Encyclopedia Britannica* finally published its entry on Anatolian languages. This is a complete reworking by H. Craig Melchert and Theo of the original article of 1974 written by Philo Houwink ten Cate. It can be found through [www.britannica.com](http://www.britannica.com).

## Donald Whitcomb

**Donald Whitcomb’s** summer began with a second visit to Saudi Arabia, a follow-up to the suggestion by Dr. al-Ghabban that we excavate the site of Jurash in the Asir. Normally, late July is not an optimal time to visit the kingdom, as a few days in Riyadh amply attested. But the Asir is very different; part of the Yemeni highlands, it is styled the “Alps” of Arabia and features ski lifts and wooded forests (with baboons, not observed during our trip). Whitcomb spent two temperate days visiting the site of Jurash, which proved to be the fenced remnant (about 500 × 300 m) of a former town. In many ways it seems a half-scale version of Najran, about 300 km to the southwest, with some pre-Islamic stone structures and ample evidence of continued occupation throughout the Islamic period.

One of the more interesting aspects of researching the archaeology of Saudi Arabia is the evidence provided by maps, especially medieval maps (fig. 1). During the autumn, the main excitement of the Oriental Institute was preparation for the exhibit *European Cartographers and the Ottoman World, 1500–1750: Maps from the Collection of O. J. Sopranos*. This was an opportunity to return to one of Whitcomb’s first interests, Islamic maps, encouraged by his professor Paul Wheatley

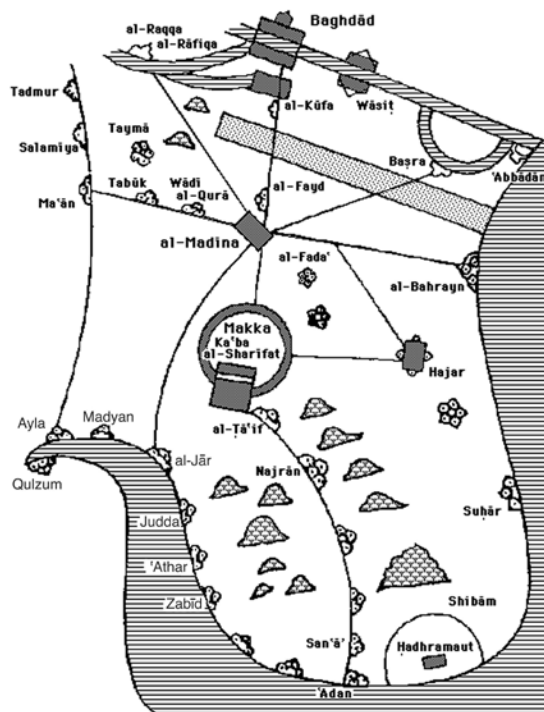


Figure 1. A tenth-century map of Arabia, showing the centrality of Mecca and Madina

## INDIVIDUAL RESEARCH

and the appearance of Harley and Woodward's magnificent *History of Cartography* (published by the University of Chicago), and the fine essays and maps testifying to Islamic cartography (vol. 2, book 1, 1992). Curiously, the exhibition moved from ancient maps to medieval European and Ottoman cartography with minimal mention of the contributions of the Arab geographers and their mapping traditions. This proved a splendid inspiration for a number of students to explore, in a seminar, a region of particular archaeological interest and examine its medieval maps and section of the al-Idrisi world map of the twelfth century. These discoveries were distilled into parts of Whitcomb's presentation on the Islamic mapping tradition at the symposium held to commemorate this exhibition on December 8.

Early November saw a pause for reflection at the Oriental Institute retreat, during which Whitcomb presented some ideas on the relationship of "ancient and Islamic" research (see *Islamic Archaeology Project Report* and below). This proved a quiet prelude to the intensity of the American Schools of Oriental Research meetings in San Diego. He gave a paper as part of a fine session on Islamic Archaeology entitled "Early Palestinian Glazed Pottery." This provided a context to review the state of this fundamental archaeological tool and the amazing progress provided by recent excavations and surveys throughout the Levant. Toward the end of the conference, Whitcomb met with Hamed Salam, of Birzeit University, and Mahmoud Hawary, presently at another Oriental Institute in Oxford; they reflected an old pipe-dream to begin new excavations at Khirbet al-Mafjar, near Jericho. Later in the spring, Whitcomb responded to Hamed's invitation to visit Birzeit University and the site once again (fig. 2).

This year also has a special guest, Professor Mahmoud ElHusseiny, chairman of Islamic Archaeology at Cairo University. In devising a research project for his stay in Chicago, he suggested the tribes of Fustat. Whitcomb had written some speculations on the original structure of the earliest urban settlement in Egypt after the Muslim conquest. This would provide a special opportunity to delve further into the organization of this very early Islamic city (see Oriental Institute *Annual Report 2005–2006*, pp. 23–24). Whitcomb selected a particular tribe for this project, the Madhhij, a Yemeni tribe which migrated to Fustat after the conquest and whose principal center in Arabia was the town of Jurash. The research design hoped that excavations in Arabia, when compared with excavated remains in Fustat (the houses found by Ali Bahgat

or George Scanlon), would suggest Arabian architectural features which the Madhhij brought with them and incorporated into the new Islamic city. Unfortunately the independent research of ElHusseiny indicates no overlap of excavations with the location of the Madhhij in Fustat. At the same time, the participation of the Oriental Institute in the Jurash project came to naught, so this research design must remain a "pipe-dream" for an opportunity in the future.

Along the way, Whitcomb's students have progressed with increasingly specialized seminars on Islamic archaeology and relevant artifacts. The introductory course on Islamic archaeology had a larger-than-usual number of students, which one would like to see as an increasing interest in this relatively unknown field. Alexander Asa Eger took his doctorate



Figure 2. Floor mosaic from Mafjar, showing the tree of life with gazelles and a lion



with honors, having written his dissertation on the archaeology of the *thughur*, or Byzantine frontier, in the early Islamic period. His research into the landscape from the Syrian plains into the heights of the Anatolian plateau was based on his own surveys and excavations as well as those of many predecessors. His analytic separation of aspects of this complex problem stands as a major contribution, remarkably expressed without the usual jargon. He is now happily away continuing his excavations and then on to a post-doctoral position at Koç University in Istanbul.

The spring began with Whitcomb's participation in the Oriental Institute Seminar, organized this year by Jeffrey Szuchman. The subject of the seminar was Nomads, Tribes, and the State in the Ancient Near East; Whitcomb hopes to have shown that expansion of "ancient" into "Islamic" is a worthwhile venture. On the one hand, an ever-increasing number of excavations are revealing the settlement of nomads through analyses of archaeological remains of villages. On the other hand, the organization of the earliest Islamic state presents a case for archaeological investigation in the dearth of textual evidence. Following the lead of Fred Donner, Whitcomb suggests the extensive settlement of Arab nomads led to a "tribal state" under Mu'awiya; this historic example may be useful to analyze these concepts in much earlier periods. Finally, this relationship of "ancient and Islamic" was revisited at the 6th International Congress for the Archaeology of the Ancient Near East (ICAANE), held in Rome. Whitcomb was invited to present a plenary speech on the Islamic sessions at this congress; Cristina Tonghini, Alan Walmsley, and Whitcomb had assembled some thirty-six papers and a major part of this congress. Whitcomb used this forum to advocate the inclusion of Islamic archaeology of the Middle East in this congress and he is delighted to report that the steering committee has agreed to the participation of this new field in London in 2010.

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### Karen L. Wilson

In March, **Karen L. Wilson** submitted the completed manuscript of her final publication of the University of Chicago's 1903–1905 excavations at Bismaya (ancient Adab) to the Oriental Institute Publications Office. During the spring and summer, she continued to work with Anna R. Ressman, Oriental Institute Photographer, to obtain final images for the Mesopotamian Gallery Guide, the text for which also has been completed.

Having finished her work on Bismaya, Karen moved on to another project — collaborating with a group of scholars to prepare the final publication of Oriental Institute excavations in the late 1950s and early 1960s at the sites of Nippur and Abu Salabikh in Iraq. Karen will be responsible for preparing the manuscript dealing with the two short seasons at Abu Salabikh and for the ceramics and pre-Early Dynastic period small finds from Nippur. She would like to thank NELC graduate student Alexandra Witsell for her able assistance on this project.

In addition, Karen continued to serve as Kish Project Coordinator at the Field Museum, preparing a catalog of finds from the Joint Field Museum and Oxford University Expedition to Kish in 1923–1933. And thanks to a grant from the Department of Defense, Karen will continue as a staff member at the Field for the next year to coordinate the production of a final site report for Kish.

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## Christopher Woods

This past year, **Christopher Woods** was fortunate to serve as a fellow in the Franke Institute for the Humanities. The fellowship allowed him to finish his book, *The Grammar of Perspective: The Sumerian Conjugation Prefixes as a System of Grammatical Voice*, which appeared in June as volume 32 of Brill's Cuneiform Monograph series. In the book, Chris tackles the long-standing problem of the Sumerian conjugation prefixes, perhaps the most poorly understood and perplexing elements of Sumerian verbal morphology. Approaching the problem from a functional-typological perspective and basing his analysis on semantics, Chris argues that these elements, in their primary function, constitute a system of grammatical voice, in which the active voice is set against the middle voice. The latter is represented by heavy and light markers that differ with respect to focus and emphasis. As a system of grammatical voice, the conjugation prefixes provided Sumerian speakers with a linguistic means of altering the perspective from which events may be viewed, giving speakers a series of options for better approximating in language the infinitely graded spectrum of human conceptualization and experience. As a companion project, Chris also finished an article ("The Conjugation Prefixes, the Dative Case, and the Empathy Hierarchy in Sumerian") that looks at an important non-voice function of the system, namely, the relationship between the prefixes and the *animacy* of peripheral case referents, as typified by the dative case. Here, he argues that the prefixes served as a means to linguistically express the notion of *empathy* — the degree to which speakers identify or share common concerns with the people and things under discussion — and so as a system constitute a graded empathy hierarchy. The paper will be published as part of the proceedings of a conference on grammatical case, entitled *Variations, concurrence et evolution des cas dans divers domaines linguistiques*, held in Paris in April 2007.

The remainder of Chris' time at the Franke Institute was devoted to research on his second book, a study of Sumerian writing and its morphemic basis, as well as a paper on notions of mythological geography and cosmography in Sumerian and Akkadian literature. In September he will deliver a paper at the Chicago-Paris working group, *Rendre visible l'invisible: pratiques religieuses de la représentation*, on the physical manifestations of Sumerian concepts of *me* 'essence,' *nam-tar* 'fate,' and *me-lam<sub>2</sub>* 'aura.' Each of these notions, which play a central role in Mesopotamian religion, represents a fundamentally abstract concept, as the glosses suggest. Yet each was commonly conceptualized and represented in purely physical terms, as real world, tangible objects — a striking instance of *coincidentia oppositorum*, a cross-culturally observed mythological theme in which identity consists of opposing attributes. In this paper Chris explores the nature and limitations of this mapping between the abstract and the concrete, how it was understood by ancients and exploited for metonymic purposes in literature. In October he will give a talk at the University of Toronto on recent advances and prospects in Sumerian grammar. This was Chris' first year as the editor of the *Journal of Ancient Near Eastern Religions*. The journal is now published bi-annually; the second volume under his direction, 2007/2, appeared as this *Annual Report* went to print.

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## K. Aslihan Yener

During 2007, **K. Aslihan Yener** directed the twelfth season of the broadly based Amuq Valley Regional Projects (AVRP) in Antakya, Turkey. She also directed the fourth season of

excavations at Tell Atchana (ancient Alalakh) under the auspices of the Turkish Ministry of Culture and Tourism and the Antakya Mustafa Kemal University. A team consisting of students and specialists from several countries, as well as two students from the University of Chicago's Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, participated in the excavation. A preliminary report appeared as "Aççana Höyüğü 2007 Yılı Çalışmaları," 30. Kazı Sonuçları Toplantısı, Ankara: General Directorate of Antiquities and Museums, as well as the following articles in English: "The Anatolian Middle Bronze Age Kingdoms and Alalakh: Mukish, Kanesh, and Trade," in *Bridging the Gap Between East and West in the Archaeology of Ancient Anatolia*, by S. I. Fletcher and A. Greaves, pp. 151–60, *Anatolian Studies* 57 (2007); "Artifact: What Is It: Fragments of a Krater," *Archaeology Magazine* 61 (2008): 72; "A Zoomorphic Vessel from Alalakh: Diplomatic Emblems in Three Dimensional Form," in *Studies in Honour of Refik Duru*, edited by Gülsün Umurtak, Şevket Dönmez, and Aslihan Yurtsever, pp. 217–28 (Istanbul: Ege Yayınları, 2007).

Honors, grants, and awards during 2007 included the Institute of Aegean Prehistory Grant, "Alalakh Excavations, Turkey," the Fund for Amuq Valley Excavations (FAVAE), Turkish Ministry of Culture and Tourism, and numerous private donors. In 2007 Yener gave several scholarly papers on the Amuq projects and the excavations at Alalakh, entitled "Excavations at Alalakh 2006" at the Middle East Technical University, Turkey; "Excavations at Alalakh 2006" at the New York University Anthropology Department; and "Excavations at Alalakh 2006" at Pennsylvania State University. In April she was invited to speak on the results of the Amuq research at the International Conference of the Excavation, Surveys, and Archaeometry Symposium in Kocaeli, Turkey.

Courses taught during 2007 include NEAA 3094, Museum Collection and Installation; NEAA 30351, 20351: Anatolia 2; and NEAA 3093: Instrumental Analysis in Archaeology.

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# RESEARCH SUPPORT

## COMPUTER LABORATORY

John C. Sanders

### PROJECTS

#### The Oriental Institute Web Site

This past February 7th marked our new Web site's first birthday. It came and went without too much fanfare, though I'll admit to a couple of corks being popped on campus to celebrate the occasion. As I noted in last year's *Annual Report*, our new "look and feel," as well as the Web site's improved structure and query capabilities, has met with widespread approval and praise by faculty, staff, students, and the general public. I continue to work with research projects and faculty to update their project Web site pages and find new uses for the Web site among the Institute's projects. Like computer desktop support, this is one of my daily endeavors, working to keep faculty and current Institute projects as efficient with computer technology as possible as they pursue their research goals.

#### Integrated Database

Throughout the year, I continued to work on the Integrated Database (IDB) initiative as our Request For Information (RFI) documents were returned and evaluated. Several software vendors were invited to give on-site demonstrations of their solutions for our IDB between December 2007 and early 2008.

Although taking longer than originally anticipated, the IDB evaluation process went well throughout the year. Vendors gave their presentations, followed by lively discussions of particular software features, or lack thereof, and how each product could be either integrated into the Institute's current operations and/or alter our operations and workflow procedures. Subsequent communications with each company's representatives indicated both the vendors and our IDB committee members thought the process was informative and valuable. The IDB subcommittee met after the demonstrations were completed, and these post-presentation discussions continued throughout the spring and summer of 2008. Work on this initiative will continue in earnest during 2008–2009, as financial underwriting moves to the top of the list to issues remaining to resolve.

In a related topic, I worked with Geoff Emberling, John Larson, Tom James, and other Museum staff members to investigate software solutions for the Museum's large collection of photographic images, both prints and negatives, for both in-house archiving and their distribution to the public. In late summer 2007, the IDB committee was given a demonstration of the Art History Department's Luna Image database, a full-featured image database program. The university has obtained a site license for this product, and we are in the process of evaluating its applicability for managing the imaging component of the Institute's IDB initiative. As so often happens, this meeting produced as many new questions about Luna's applicability in our case as it answered. Some of these issues still remain unresolved, in part because the particular solution we choose for the main IDB program will have a definite impact on our need for and/or use of any external image database program such as Luna. These issues and others remain to be resolved in 2008–2009, and I'll report further progress in next year's *Annual Report*.

### **Oriental Institute Terabyte Storage Initiative**

Over the past year, I have continued to set up and monitor off-site computer storage space for the faculty, staff, and units on the Institute's terabyte storage system, the Oriental Institute Archive (OIA). As I write this, our OIA storage space is 13 terabytes (13,000,000,000,000 bytes) and growing. For comparison purposes, a typed, double-spaced, 8 1/2 × 11" piece of paper is roughly 2,000 bytes! More than ninety faculty and staff currently have access to the OIA. All the major Institute units are using the OIA for archival storage of computer files and images, while most faculty and staff use the OIA for daily computer backup. As more of the Institute's historical records, cards, documents, photographs, and publications are converted to digital format the size of our terabyte storage system will continue to expand.

### **Persepolis Fortification Archive**

In 1933, Oriental Institute archaeologists working at Persepolis, clearing the ruined palaces of Kings Darius, Xerxes, and their Achaemenid Persian successors, found clay tablets in two small rooms of a bastion in the fortification wall at the edge of the great stone terrace. There were tens of thousands of tablets and fragments. These were records produced by the operations of a single administrative organization in the years around 500 B.C., all strands of a single information system. Most of the so-called Persepolis Fortification tablets came to the Oriental Institute in 1936, on loan for study and analysis.

During this past year, the Computer Lab played a minor role in the ongoing collaboration between Matthew Stolper, the project's director; the Humanities Computing department of the University of Chicago; and a group of language scholars and technicians from the University of Southern California (USC) on the imaging of the Fortification tablets. My participation focused on contributing thoughts and suggestions regarding scanning standards to follow, workflow procedures, and other technical and computer-related matters. I helped set up several computer scanning and image-capture stations located around the Institute for use by project staff, and I stayed abreast of the scanning operations as they progressed throughout the year. With Stolper's contribution of text and images, I also worked with Jack Auses of the University's Networking Services and Information Technologies department (NSIT) to create the Persepolis Fortification Archive component on the Oriental Institute Web site.

For additional information regarding this project, please read the Persepolis Fortification Archive Project section of this *Annual Report*, where Professor Stolper outlines in detail the current progress of the scanning and cataloging of these most important ancient texts.

### **Research Archives Map Collections**

Very preliminary discussions were started between the Institute's Research Archives, the CAMEL Laboratory, and Jack Auses concerning the future digital delivery of the Research Archives's Map Collections via our Web site. Discussions centered on the end users' interaction with the maps database and their experiences as they view large-format versions of the maps. Because the scanning process was going to take at least a year or two, Jack and I eventually decided to put these talks on hold until we get closer to the end of the data acquisition phase. We both believe the underlying software to deliver these maps could change significantly before we are ready to make a decision on a specific software program. We will visit this topic again in next year's *Annual Report*.

### **Building-wide Electrical Re-wiring**

During the summer of 2007 the entire Oriental Institute's electrical wiring was inspected and upgraded or replaced if necessary. My participation in this endeavor was to stay on top of the re-wiring process and make sure that the Institute's computer servers, desktop computers, printers, and other miscellaneous computer hardware either remained online by being temporarily moved, or was properly shut down while repairs took place in each office throughout the building. This work, although disruptive to building operations for certain time periods and room groupings, was not the possible disaster I thought it might devolve into. No real problems developed as the work progressed throughout the summer and into the fall; just glad its over.

### **Building-wide Document Printing and Scanning**

The third Xerox machine with network scanning operations was installed on the Institute's third floor at the end of 2007. Several faculty and staff were enrolled to test document printing to these Xerox machines over the winter. Only minor setup or procedural problems developed during the testing phase. In early 2008 we discussed with representatives from Xerox the issue of student printing in the Research Archives via account code vs. purchased "cash cards." We believe we have identified a workable solution, which I hope will be set up on the Archives copier in fall 2008. Once complete, we will turn on the Xerox Network Accounting system on each copier so that all building printing, scanning, and copying can be tracked, thereby hopefully eliminating the redundant or errant printing that has plagued the stand-alone Hewlett-Packard laser printers in Room 228, the third floor, and in the Research Archives. Additionally, I began adding printer drivers for these Xerox machines on faculty and staff computers throughout the building in spring 2008 and will continue to do so through the summer until everyone has been converted to printing to our Xerox machines.

### **Macintosh Computer Upgrades**

If you remember from last year's *Annual Report*, the vast majority of the Institute's Macintosh System 9 computer users had their desktop or laptop computers replaced with brand-new Intel-based Apple computers purchased in summer 2006. During this past year the remaining System 9 users were moved completely to Mac System X. Janet Johnson's font and scanning issues under System X and the new Intel-based Macintosh computer's of the Chicago Demotic Dictionary project were effectively solved by hiring a student programmer to work out the remaining font issues (Jan is keeping a single Mac System 9 computer in the Demotic Dictionary office to deal with older Word documents that still pose font problems for System X). Robert Ritner moved to System X as soon as Janet Johnson's font issues were solved, as he uses the same fonts she does. And the Volunteer Office computer was swapped out for an older, re-useable machine that could run System X. Additionally, Miguel Civil's very old Windows computer was replaced with a newer machine that became available from the CAMEL Lab, so he is now operating with Windows XP at a reasonable processing speed.

### **Electronic Publications Initiative**

The Institute's Electronic Publications Initiative progressed nicely throughout the year, with Tom Urban, Leslie Schramer, and the Publications Office staff staying on top of the book scanning process by Northern Micrographics. As the mostly out-of-print volumes previously published by our Publications Office were shipped off and then returned to us in digital format, I worked with

## COMPUTER LABORATORY

Jack Auses to add these Adobe Portable Document Format (.pdf) files to the Publications Office Catalog on the Institute's Web site.

The Institute's Electronic Publications Initiative dictates that current and future print publications produced by the Oriental Institute Publications Office are also made available electronically through the Institute's Web site. I encourage everyone to read that portion of the Publications Office section of this *Annual Report* regarding the status of the Institute's Electronic Publications Initiative, then visit the Catalog of Publications page on our Web site, where you will be able to download these past and current titles of our publications in electronic form:

<http://oi.uchicago.edu/research/pubs/catalog/>

A list of the volume titles that were processed into digital format and made available to the public on the Institute's Web site during this past year can be found in the Electronic Resources section of this *Annual Report*.

This Electronic Publications Initiative, when fully implemented through the electronic publication of all 400+ titles in our Publications Office Catalog, promises to be a great benefit to scholarly research in the various fields of ancient Near Eastern studies.

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For further information concerning the above-mentioned research projects and other electronic resources in general, refer to the What's New page on the Oriental Institute's Web site, at

<http://oi.uchicago.edu/news/>

See the "Electronic Resources" section of this *Annual Report* for the complete URL to each of the Web site resources mentioned in this article.

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## ELECTRONIC RESOURCES

John C. Sanders

### Oriental Institute World-Wide Web Site

#### New And Developing Resources

(NOTE: all Web addresses below are case-sensitive)

Several Oriental Institute units and projects either updated existing pages or became a new presence on the Institute's Web site during the past year.

#### Museum: Special Exhibits

European Cartographers and the Ottoman World, 1500–1750: Maps from The Collection of O. J. Sopranos

<http://oi.uchicago.edu/museum/special/maps/>



Catastrophe! The Looting and Destruction of Iraq's Past

<http://oi.uchicago.edu/museum/special/catastrophe/>

**Publications Office: Electronic Publications**

The Chicago Assyrian Dictionary of the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago (CAD)

Volume 1, A, part 1

[http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/cad\\_a1.pdf](http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/cad_a1.pdf)

Volume 1, A, part 2

[http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/cad\\_a2.pdf](http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/cad_a2.pdf)

Volume 2, B

[http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/cad\\_b.pdf](http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/cad_b.pdf)

Volume 3, D

[http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/cad\\_d.pdf](http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/cad_d.pdf)

Volume 4, E

[http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/cad\\_e.pdf](http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/cad_e.pdf)

Volume 5, G

[http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/cad\\_g.pdf](http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/cad_g.pdf)

Volume 6, H

[http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/cad\\_h.pdf](http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/cad_h.pdf)

Volume 7, I/J

[http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/cad\\_i-j.pdf](http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/cad_i-j.pdf)

Volume 8, K

[http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/cad\\_k.pdf](http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/cad_k.pdf)

Volume 9, L

[http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/cad\\_l.pdf](http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/cad_l.pdf)

Volume 10, M, part 1

[http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/cad\\_m1.pdf](http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/cad_m1.pdf)

Volume 10, M, part 2

[http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/cad\\_m2.pdf](http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/cad_m2.pdf)

Volume 11, N, part 1

[http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/cad\\_n1.pdf](http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/cad_n1.pdf)

Volume 11, N, part 2

[http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/cad\\_n2.pdf](http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/cad_n2.pdf)

**ELECTRONIC RESOURCES**

Volume 12, P

[http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/cad\\_p.pdf](http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/cad_p.pdf)

Volume 13, Q

[http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/cad\\_q.pdf](http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/cad_q.pdf)

Volume 14, R

[http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/cad\\_r.pdf](http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/cad_r.pdf)

Volume 15, S

[http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/cad\\_s.pdf](http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/cad_s.pdf)

Volume 16, Š

[http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/cad\\_s\\_tsade.pdf](http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/cad_s_tsade.pdf)

Volume 17, Š, part 1

[http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/cad\\_s\\_shin\\_1.pdf](http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/cad_s_shin_1.pdf)

Volume 17, Š, part 2

[http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/cad\\_s\\_shin\\_2.pdf](http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/cad_s_shin_2.pdf)

Volume 17, Š, part 3

[http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/cad\\_s\\_shin\\_3.pdf](http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/cad_s_shin_3.pdf)

Volume 18, T

[http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/cad\\_t.pdf](http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/cad_t.pdf)

Volume 19, Ṭ

[http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/cad\\_t\\_tet.pdf](http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/cad_t_tet.pdf)

Volume 21, Z

[http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/cad\\_z.pdf](http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/cad_z.pdf)

The Chicago Demotic Dictionary of the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago (CDD)

Prologue

[http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/CDD\\_prologue.pdf](http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/CDD_prologue.pdf)

Volume 3

[http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/CDD\\_3.pdf](http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/CDD_3.pdf)

Volume 6

[http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/CDD\\_c.pdf](http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/CDD_c.pdf)

Volume Y

[http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/CDD\\_Y.pdf](http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/CDD_Y.pdf)

Volume B

[http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/CDD\\_B.pdf](http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/CDD_B.pdf)

## Volume F

[http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/CDD\\_F.pdf](http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/CDD_F.pdf)

## Volume N

[http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/CDD\\_N.pdf](http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/CDD_N.pdf)

## Volume R

[http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/CDD\\_R.pdf](http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/CDD_R.pdf)

## Volume L

[http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/CDD\\_L.pdf](http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/CDD_L.pdf)

## Volume H

[http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/CDD\\_H.pdf](http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/CDD_H.pdf)

## Volume H̄

[http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/CDD\\_H3.pdf](http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/CDD_H3.pdf)

## Volume H̄

[http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/CDD\\_H4.pdf](http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/CDD_H4.pdf)

## Volume Q

[http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/CDD\\_Q.pdf](http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/CDD_Q.pdf)

## Volume K

[http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/CDD\\_K.pdf](http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/CDD_K.pdf)

## Volume G

[http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/CDD\\_G.pdf](http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/CDD_G.pdf)

## Volume T̄

[http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/CDD\\_TJ.pdf](http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/CDD_TJ.pdf)

## Volume D̄

[http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/CDD\\_DJ.pdf](http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/CDD_DJ.pdf)

## Problematic Entries

[http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/CDD\\_problems.pdf](http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/CDD_problems.pdf)

## Problematic Entries 2

[http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/CDD\\_problems2.pdf](http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/CDD_problems2.pdf)

## The Chicago Hittite Dictionary of the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago (CHD)

## Volume L–N (four fascicles in one file)

[http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/chd\\_l-n.pdf](http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/chd_l-n.pdf)

## Volume P (three fascicles in one file)

<http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/CHDP.pdf>

## ELECTRONIC RESOURCES

Volume S, part 1

<http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/CHDS.pdf>

Volume S, part 2

<http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/CHDS2.pdf>

AS 5. *Historical Prism Inscriptions of Ashurbanipal I: Editions E, B1-5, D, and K*. Arthur Carl Piepkorn. 1933.

<http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/as5.pdf>

AS 17. *Cuneiform Texts from Nippur: The Eighth and Ninth Seasons*. Giorgio Buccellati and Robert D. Biggs. 1969.

<http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/as17.pdf>

AS 22. *Old Babylonian Letters from Tell Asmar*. Robert M. Whiting, Jr. 1987.

<http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/as22.pdf>

AS 27. *Studies Presented to Robert D. Biggs, June 4, 2004*. From the Workshop of the Chicago Assyrian Dictionary, Volume 2, Martha T. Roth, Walter Farber, and Matthew W. Stolper, eds. 2007.

<http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/as27.pdf>

MAD 1. *Sargonic Texts from the Diyala Region*. I. J. Gelb. 1952.

<http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/mad1.pdf>

MAD 2. *Old Akkadian Writing and Grammar*. I. J. Gelb. 1952.

<http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/mad2.pdf>

MAD 3. *Glossary of Old Akkadian*. I. J. Gelb. 1957.

<http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/mad3.pdf>

MAD 4. *Sargonic Texts in the Louvre Museum*. I. J. Gelb. 1970.

<http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/mad4.pdf>

MAD 5. *Sargonic Texts in the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford*. I. J. Gelb. 1970.

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OIC 13. *Tell Asmar and Khafaje: The First Season's Work in Eshnunna 1930/31*. Henri Frankfort, Thorkild Jacobsen, and Conrad Preusser. 1932.

<http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/oic13.pdf>

OIC 16. *Tell Asmar, Khafaje and Khorsabad: Second Preliminary Report of the Iraq Expedition*. Henri Frankfort. 1933.

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OIC 17. *Iraq Excavations of the Oriental Institute 1932/33: Third Preliminary Report of the Iraq Expedition*. Henri Frankfort. 1934.

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OIC 19. *Oriental Institute Discoveries in Iraq, 1933/34: Fourth Preliminary Report of the Iraq Expedition*. Henri Frankfort, with a chapter by Thorkild Jacobsen. 1935.

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OIC 21. *The Treasury of Persepolis and Other Discoveries in the Homeland of the Achaemenians*. Erich F. Schmidt. 1939.

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OIC 23. *Excavations at Nippur: Twelfth Season*. McGuire Gibson, Judith A. Franke, Miguel Civil, Michael L. Bates, Joachim Boessneck, Karl W. Butzer and Ted A. Rathbun, and Elizabeth Frick Mallin. 1978.

<http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/oic23.pdf>

OIMP 24. *Lost Nubia: A Centennial Exhibit of Photographs from the 1905–1907 Egyptian Expedition of The University of Chicago*. John A. Larson. 2006.

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OIMP 25. *Embroidering Identities: A Century of Palestinian Clothing*. Iman Saca. 2006.

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- OIP 24. *Sennacherib's Aqueduct at Jerwan*. Thorkild Jacobsen and Seton Lloyd. 1935.  
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- OIP 38. *Khorsabad, Part 1: Excavations in the Palace and at a City Gate*. Gordon Loud. 1936.  
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- OIP 40. *Khorsabad, Part 2: The Citadel and the Town*. Gordon Loud and Charles B. Altman. 1938.  
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- OIP 60. *More Sculpture from the Diyala Region*. Henri Frankfort. 1943.  
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- OIP 65. *Persepolis Treasury Tablets*. George G. Cameron. 1948.  
<http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/oip65.pdf>
- OIP 68. *Persepolis I: Structures, Reliefs, Inscriptions*. Erich F. Schmidt. 1953.  
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OIP 99. *Inscriptions from Tell Abū Ṣalābīkh*. R. D. Biggs. 1974.

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OIP 101. *Chogha Mish, Volume 1: Text: The First Five Seasons, 1961–1971*. Helene Kantor and P. Delougaz. 1996.

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OIP 115. *Cuneiform Texts from the Ur III Period in the Oriental Institute*, Volume 1: *Drehem Administrative Documents from the Reign of Shulgi*. M. Hilgert. 1998.

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OIP 128. *The Origins of State Organizations in Prehistoric Highland Fars, Southern Iran: Excavations at Tall-e Bakun*. Abbas Alizadeh. 2006.

<http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/oip128.pdf>

OIS 2. *Margins of Writing, Origins of Cultures*. Seth L. Sanders, ed. 2007 (second printing).

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OIS 3. *Performing Death: Social Analyses of Funerary Traditions in the Ancient Near East and Mediterranean*. Nicola Laneri, ed. 2007.

<http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/ois3.pdf>

OIS 4. *Religion and Power: Divine Kingship in the Ancient World and Beyond*. Nicole Brisch, ed., 2008.

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SAOC 20. *Animal Remains from Tell Asmar*. Max Hilzheimer, translated by Adolph A. Brux. 1941.

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SAOC 31. *Prehistoric Investigations in Iraqi Kurdistan*. R. J. Braidwood and B. Howe. 1960.

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SAOC 44. *Nippur Neighborhoods*. E. C. Stone. 1987.

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SAOC 60. *Studies in Semitic and Afroasiatic Linguistics Presented to Gene B. Gragg*. Cynthia L. Miller, ed. 2007.

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SAOC 62. *Proceedings of the 51st Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale, Held at the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago, July 18–22, 2005*. R. Biggs, J. Myers, and M. Roth, eds. 2008.

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## Research Archives: Research Archives Catalog OnLine

The Oriental Institute's online catalog of the Research Archives has significantly increased the retrospective cataloging of material from before 1990. The total number of records stands at over 275,000.

<http://oilib.uchicago.edu>

### Oriental Institute Research Archives Acquisitions Lists

<http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/AcquisitionsList-May2008.pdf>

<http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/AcquisitionsList-April2008.pdf>

<http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/AcquisitionsList-March2008.pdf>

<http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/AcquisitionsList-February2008.pdf>

<http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/AcquisitionsList-January2008.pdf>

<http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/AcquisitionsList-December2007.pdf>

<http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/AcquisitionsList-November2007.pdf>

<http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/AcquisitionsList-October2007.pdf>

<http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/AcquisitionsList-September2007.pdf>

*Sociolinguistics of the Luvian Language: A Dissertation Presented to The Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations by Ilya Yakubovich. The Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, The University of Chicago, June 2008*

<http://oi.uchicago.edu/research/library/dissertation/yakubovich.html>

## Symposia

*Nomads, Tribes, and the State in the Ancient Near East: Cross-Disciplinary Perspectives.*  
March 7–8, 2008.

<http://oi.uchicago.edu/research/symposia/2008.html>

*Mapping the World from Ancient Babylon to the Ottoman Empire*  
December 8, 2008.

<http://oi.uchicago.edu/museum/special/maps/symposium.html>

## ELECTRONIC RESOURCES

**Philology: Persepolis Fortification Archive**

The Persepolis Fortification Archive Project now has a presence on the Oriental Institute Web site, in addition to its blog, both of which present information and resources relating to the ongoing effort to conserve, document, study, and publish the Elamite and Aramaic administrative documents and associated seal impression which form the Persepolis Fortification Archive.

<http://oi.uchicago.edu/research/projects/pfa/>

<http://persepolistablets.blogspot.com/>

**Individual Scholarship: Norman Golb**

Observations on the Ancient Tunnel Recently Discovered in Jerusalem

[http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/jerusalem\\_tunnel\\_sept2007.pdf](http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/jerusalem_tunnel_sept2007.pdf)

The Dead Sea Scrolls as Treated in a Recently Published Catalogue

[http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/dss\\_review\\_sandiego\\_catalogue\\_2007.pdf](http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/dss_review_sandiego_catalogue_2007.pdf)

Jacob Tam's Service on Behalf of The King of France at Reims (*Civitas Remorum*) and the Question of Remois Hebraic Scholarship in The 12th Century

[http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/jacob\\_tam\\_2007.pdf](http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/jacob_tam_2007.pdf)

The Home of the Hebrew Scribe of MS Parma de Rossi 1105

[http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/home\\_of\\_the\\_hebrew\\_ms\\_parma.pdf](http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/home_of_the_hebrew_ms_parma.pdf)

The So-Called "Virtual Reality Tour" at the 2007 San Diego Scrolls Exhibit

[http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/san\\_diego\\_virtual\\_reality\\_2007.pdf](http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/san_diego_virtual_reality_2007.pdf)

A New Wrinkle in the Qumran "Yahad" Theory

[http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/new\\_wrinkle\\_in\\_yahad\\_claim.pdf](http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/new_wrinkle_in_yahad_claim.pdf)

**Individual Scholarship: Robert K. Ritner**

This article, "Ptolemy IX (Soter II) at Thebes," was presented on October 14, 2006, at the Seventh Chicago-Johns Hopkins Theban Workshop and will be published in the volume, *Perspectives on Ptolemaic Thebes*, in the Oriental Institute's SAOC series, to be published in 2009.

[http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/ptolemy\\_soter\\_II\\_at\\_thebes.pdf](http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/ptolemy_soter_II_at_thebes.pdf)

Some Problematic Bipartite Nominal Predicates in Demotic

[http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/bipartite\\_nominal\\_predicates.pdf](http://oi.uchicago.edu/pdf/bipartite_nominal_predicates.pdf)

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Although Charles Jones is no longer in charge of the Oriental Institute's Research Archives, he still actively maintains several vital electronic resources for ancient Near Eastern studies just as he did during his tenure in Chicago. Thank you, Chuck, for your continuing service to the field, and our faculty, staff, and students.

ABZU: Guide to Resources for the Study of the Ancient Near East Available on the Internet

<http://www.etana.org/abzu>

ETANA: Electronic Tools and Ancient Near Eastern Archives – Core Texts

A substantial selection of digitized titles from the collections of the Research Archives has been added to the ETANA Core Texts this year.

<http://www.etana.org/coretexts.shtml>

### **IraqCrisis**

A moderated list for communicating substantive information on cultural property damaged, destroyed, or lost from Libraries and Museums in Iraq during and after the war in April 2003, and on the worldwide response to the crisis. A component of the Oriental Institute's response to the cultural heritage crisis in Iraq, this list provides a moderated forum for the distribution of information.

<https://listhost.uchicago.edu/mailman/listinfo/iraqcrisis>

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## **PUBLICATIONS OFFICE**

### **Thomas G. Urban**

The full-time staff of the Publications Office consisted of Thomas G. Urban and Leslie Schramer. Senior Editorial Assistant Katie L. Johnson continued to provide invaluable assistance.

The Publications Office continues to assist the Membership and Development Offices with the publication of *News & Notes*, *Annual Report*, and miscellaneous postcards, brochures, and posters.

### **Sales**

The David Brown Book Company and Oxbow Books Ltd., U.K., continue to represent the Institute for its book distribution. Although a limited number of titles are available for in-house sales in the Suq shop, please note that all external orders for Institute publications should be addressed to: The David Brown Book Company, P.O. Box 511, Oakville, CT 06779; Telephone Toll Free: 1-800-791-9354; Fax: 1-860-945-9468; E-mail: david.brown.bk.co@snet.net; Web site: www.oxbowbooks.com.

Information related to the sales of Oriental Institute titles may be obtained via e-mail:

[oi-publications@uchicago.edu](mailto:oi-publications@uchicago.edu)

During the year two titles sold out before they reached two years in print: Seth Sanders' (ed.) *Margins of Writing* (OIS 2) and Nicola Laneri's (ed.) *Performing Death* (OIS 3); the first was reprinted, as the second will be. Titles in the Oriental Institute Seminars (OIS) series are proving to be very popular, and we have doubled their print run. Having said that, titles in the Oriental Institute Museum Publications (OIMP) series are also selling very well, with two having sold out (John Larson's *Lost Nubia* [OIMP 24] and Iman Saca's *Embroidering Identities* [OIMP 25])

## PUBLICATIONS OFFICE

and others nearing so. Indeed, sales have increased for all our titles, and since advertising has not changed, we credit the increase to having the Institute's titles available online.

### Electronic Publications

As part of the Oriental Institute's Electronic Initiative, all new titles are simultaneously issued in print and as .pdf files delivered through the Oriental Institute's Web site, while older titles are scanned, saved as .tif files and .pdfs, with the latter being posted online. To do the scanning, the Oriental Institute chose Northern MicroGraphics (NMT Corporation), located in La Crosse, Wisconsin. This year, the Publications Office oversaw the scanning of the following thirty-one older titles: Chicago Assyrian Dictionary (CAD) A/1, A/2, B, D, E, G, H, I/J, K, M/1, M/2, N/1, N/2, Q, S, Š/1, Š/2, Š/3, Z; Chicago Hittite Dictionary (CHD) L–N; Materials for the Assyrian Dictionary (MAD) 2, 3; Oriental Institute Publications (OIP) 14, 44, 59, 65, 68, 69, 70; Studies in Ancient Oriental Civilization (SAOC) 5; and Erich Schmidt's *Flights over Ancient Cities of Iran*.

The Electronic Initiative has already proved to be very successful. The posted .pdfs are available wherever the Internet reaches, and our older titles, as well as the new ones, are especially appreciated in countries that do not have our titles on their library shelves, as we are repeatedly told by those who access them. An unexpected benefit is that we can extract images from the .pdf files and use them wherever we need them, as we did for the cover of the 51st Rencontre volume (SAOC 62; see illustration).

We are privileged to play such a significant role in the distribution of knowledge, and the posting of so many titles online can only raise the profile of the Oriental Institute in the field of Near Eastern studies to the world. We encourage everyone to visit the Publications Office Web page and browse the list of titles available online, noting especially that the dates of these volumes range from the 1930s to the present: [oi.uchicago.edu/research/pubs/catalog](http://oi.uchicago.edu/research/pubs/catalog).

### Volumes Printed (in Print and Online)

1. *The Assyrian Dictionary of the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago*, Volume A, Part 2. Reprinted.



*The outer portal of citadel Gate A, with the partially excavated central portal behind. Khorsabad, Part 2: The Citadel and the Town, by Gordon Loud and Charles B. Altman, pl. 7. Oriental Institute Publications 40. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 1938*

2. *The Assyrian Dictionary of the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago*, Volume K. Reprinted.
3. *The Assyrian Dictionary of the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago*, Volume L. Reprinted.
4. *The Assyrian Dictionary of the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago*, Volume N, Parts 1 and 2. Reprinted.
5. *Catastrophe! The Looting and Destruction of Iraq's Past*. Geoff Emberling and Katharyn Hanson, editors. OIMP 28.
6. *European Cartographers and the Ottoman World, 1500–1750: Maps from the Collection of O. J. Sopranos*. Ian Manners and M. Pınar Emiralioğlu. OIMP 27.
7. *Margins of Writing, Origins of Cultures*. Seth Sanders, editor. Second printing with minor corrections and postscripts. OIS 2.
8. *Religion and Power: Divine Kingship in the Ancient World and Beyond*. Nicole Brisch, editor. OIS 4.
9. *Proceedings of the 51st Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale Held at the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago, July 18–22, 2005*. Robert D. Biggs, Jennie Myers, and Martha T. Roth, editors. SAOC 62.
10. *Studies in Semitic and Afroasiatic Linguistics in Honor of Gene B. Gragg*. Cynthia L. Miller, editor. SAOC 60.
11. *Studies Presented to Robert D. Biggs, June 4, 2004*. From the Workshop of the Chicago Assyrian Dictionary, Volume 2. Walter Farber, Martha T. Roth, and Matthew W. Stolper, editors. AS 27.

### Volumes in Preparation

1. *The Archaeology and Geography of Ancient Transcaucasian Societies*, Volume 1. *The Foundations of Research and Regional Survey in the Tsaghkahovit Plain, Armenia*. Adam T. Smith, Ruben S. Badalyan, and Pavel Avetisyan.
2. *The Assyrian Dictionary of the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago*, Volume U/W.
3. *Baked Clay Figurines and Votive Beds from Medinet Habu*. Emily Teeter.
4. *Chogha Mish, Volume 2. A Prehistoric Regional Center in Lowland Susiana, Southwestern Iran: Final Report on the Last Six Seasons of Excavations, 1972–1978*. Abbas Alizadeh. OIP 130. In press.
5. *Kerkenes Special Studies 1. Sculpture and Inscriptions from the Monumental Entrance to the Palatial Complex at Kerkenes, Turkey*. Catherine M. Draycott and Geoffrey D. Summers.
6. *The Mechanics of Ancient Egyptian Magical Practice*. Robert K. Ritner. SAOC 54. Fourth printing.
7. *The Monumental Complex of King Ahmose at Abydos, Volume 1. The Pyramid Temple of Ahmose and Its Environs: Architecture and Decoration*. Stephen P. Harvey.
8. *Performing Death: Social Analyses of Funerary Traditions in the Ancient Near East and Mediterranean*. Nicola Laneri, ed. OIS 3. Second printing.

## RESEARCH ARCHIVES

**Manuscripts in Backlog**

1. *Bismaya: Recovering the Lost City of Adab*. Karen L. Wilson.
  2. *The 1996–1997 Survey Seasons at Bir Umm Fawakhir*. Carol A. Meyer.
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**RESEARCH ARCHIVES****Foy Scalf****Introduction**

As announced in last year's *Annual Report*, Dr. Magnus Widell has moved on from his position as Head of the Research Archives to take a faculty position as lecturer in Assyriology at the University of Liverpool. His jovial spirit around the Oriental Institute has surely been missed, especially by his Assyriological colleagues, and social hours in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations will never be the same. During his tenure he initiated a number of very important developments in the Research Archives which will be maintained and fostered, and we wish him the very best in his new Liverpool home. Having worked in the Research Archives over the last six years with two librarians, Chuck Jones and Magnus, I hope to bring a refreshed approach to the development of the library and continue to make improvements in all facets of its operation. Both Chuck and Magnus taught me a great deal about what the Oriental Institute Research Archives is and isn't, and many of the changes taking place are the result of their legacies.

Soon after the departure of Magnus in November, we had a serious structural concern with the large and beautiful glass window in the Reading Room. Part of the bracing from the large central



*Botti Studio crew  
replacing window panes  
in the Oriental Institute  
Research Archives*



rosette had come loose and was in dire need of repair. The window needed to be boarded for several weeks before being repaired by Botti Studio. All the glass and leading was replaced from top to bottom and a new bracing system was developed to strengthen the window in the future. The supports are now anchored into the stonework itself and the glass is reinforced by being attached to the steel supports via copper wire. In addition, the replacement glass is UV-treated with a protective sheet between two panes of glass. Reduction of the ultraviolet rays should help to conserve our very important book collection for future generations. The previous window had withstood the battering Chicago winds for over seventy years and we hope the new window will last at least as long.

In addition to these repairs, we are now looking at commencing touch-up work on the ceiling murals, which have been damaged by water leaks over the years. As a treasure of the University of Chicago and a popular photographic setting, even for the president of the University, it is crucial that the elegance of the Reading Room be maintained, with an eye to both conservation and tradition. Despite such structural necessities, the most pressing issues facing the Research Archives in the next decade revolve around budget and space. To begin with the former, a number of efforts have been undertaken to relieve the growing problem of space in the library. First, in the fall of 2007, we consolidated our working offices from two to one in order to accommodate the 1,500 books from the donation of Professor Gregory Areshian and another 500 volumes from the library's collection. The Gregory Areshian Collection (formerly our second office) now houses these books as well as a small study area with a table and chairs. Reorganizing our office space has freed up four columns of book shelving on the mezzanine (third floor). Over the course of the summer we will be shifting the entire journal collection in order to take advantage of this space. Several columns of shelving have also been added to the new wing, in the room between the Reading Room and monograph stacks where we currently house the old card catalog. The additional space has allowed us to shift the entire Reading Room, providing space for serials which were double shelved or had no room for growth. Finally, the map collection has now been scanned by the Center for Ancient Middle Eastern Landscapes (CAMEL). By the end of fall quarter, I hope to have the maps moved to off-site storage and the room reorganized in preparation for further extending the journals collection. The paper maps will be replaced by a computer with an oversized screen to display digital images of the maps, which will be accessible in off-site storage. Further complementing these additional spaces, we have begun the arduous process of cleaning out the library's storage room, which has been collecting duplicates, offprints, and other miscellaneous volumes for the past thirty years. Another room will be opened up for journal and study space through this process.

As for financial concerns, there have been major impacts on how far we can stretch our budget. On the one hand, academic books are becoming ever more expensive, a trend that is increasing despite the tendency toward digitization. On the other hand, the falling value of the dollar coupled with the increased publication of books abroad have tremendously hampered our buying power, especially in the European publishing market. This has forced us to make hard decisions about which volumes to purchase and I will continue to evaluate the costs, benefits, and use of the various volumes we acquire. In an effort to continue our comprehensive acquisition, we have benefited through the sale of duplicate material from the library collection as well as from personal donations.

## RESEARCH ARCHIVES

**Acquisitions**

Our acquisition efforts were strong over the past year, the result mainly of increased revenue through the sale of duplicates to Dove Book Publishers with the help of Sean Dey, Troy Ogle, and Jeffrey Ball. Dove has been able to purchase many of our duplicate volumes, providing credit to the Research Archives with which we order new volumes. We have also raised additional funds through the sale of duplicate material to faculty, staff, and students. The sale of this duplicate material raises funds as well as frees up much-needed space for future volumes. With the added revenue we have been able to catch up on several journals and series for which our collection had fallen seriously behind, such as *Chronique d'Égypte*, *Kaskal*, *Excavation Memoirs*, *State Archives of Assyria Bulletin*, *Bulletin d'Institut français d'archéologie orientale*, and *Orientalia Lovaniensia Analecta*. The following numbers reflect our monthly acquisitions over the past twelve months.

	<i>Monographs, Series</i>	<i>Journals</i>
July 2007	45	28
August 2007	24	26
September 2007	64	20
October 2007	111	24
November 2007	80	21
December 2007	100	28
January 2008	86	32
February 2008	69	23
March 2008	37	18
April 2008	48	34
May 2008	30	18
June 2008	99	26
Totals	793	298
Total Volumes	1,091	

**Electronic Catalog**

The 2007–2008 academic year witnessed an enormous surge in our cataloging efforts, borne out by the tremendous growth of our library catalog. Fortunately, we dodged a bullet and luckily saved months worth of cataloging. Materials cataloged over a decade ago into an old ProCite database (see the *Annual Reports* for 1993–1994: <http://oi.uchicago.edu/research/pubs/ar/93-94/ra.html>, and 1994–1995: <http://oi.uchicago.edu/research/pubs/ar/94-95/ra.html>), upwards of 50,000 new records, were feared lost among the personnel changes of the past several years. Fortunately, I was able to obtain copies of these files from Chuck Jones, former archivist and bibliographer for the Research Archives. We have been vigorously incorporating these files into the electronic catalog. Our cataloging efforts have had an added benefit from the cooperation



of several sister institutions. Electronic files from Christian Gaubert for the *Bulletin d'Institut français d'archéologie orientale*, as well as Lewis Lane and Zhe Yang from the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York for the *Journal of the Ancient Near Eastern Society*, added over 5,000 records to our database as well as links to .pdf copies of these articles available freely online.

In the retrospective cataloging, we have now processed all serials, monographs A–L and Z–R (leaving only M–P), and large sections of the journals (these take the longest because of the many articles and reviews contained in each volume). It truly won't be long, perhaps one to two years, before all the material in the Research Archives is cataloged and publicly searchable online. In the *Annual Report* for 1991–1992, when the electronic catalog contained just 20,000 records, former bibliographer Chuck Jones estimated that a complete catalog of the Research Archives would result in roughly 500,000 records (<http://oi.uchicago.edu/research/pubs/ar/91-92/ra.html>). His estimate is probably not too far off the mark and we are slowly seeing a light at the end of the tunnel. At 300,000 records, the electronic catalog of the Research Archives provides users with the most complete, searchable index of ancient Near Eastern studies.

## On the Web

Beginning in September 2007, we have revived the tradition, dormant for some years now, of publicly distributing the acquisitions lists of the Research Archives (<http://oi.uchicago.edu/research/library/acquisitions.html>). As a premier library for ancient Near Eastern studies, it is hoped that personal and academic libraries worldwide will be able to benefit from knowing our acquisitions, as this collection stands as an important benchmark among both North American and global libraries focused on the ancient Near East. Recent NELC dissertations have also been added to the Web site for free download with the generous permission of their authors (<http://oi.uchicago.edu/research/library/dissertation/>). They will benefit through the public distribution of their work, further developing the Oriental Institute Web site as a hub of the scholarly community. Though not directly linked with the Oriental Institute Web site, the online links in the library catalog have produced a seamless connection between query and scholarship. The online catalog of the Research Archives now contains roughly 50,000 links to articles available over the Web (both freely available and subscription based). Far beyond its powerful bibliographic functions, the catalog is quickly becoming indispensable as a scholarly tool, allowing users quick and easy access to both the most comprehensive public index of ancient Near Eastern studies as well as to a broad range of scholarly content.

## Visitors

The Research Archives is a popular place for visiting scholars and we have had the pleasure to accommodate the research trips of many individuals, including (in alphabetical order): Claus Ambos, Gojko Barjamovic, Jeff Blakely, Ray Bratcher, Pearce Paul Creasman, Katrien De Graef, Ake Engsheden, Fumi Karahashi, Jacob Lauinger, Edward Oluokun, Eva Von Dassow, Andrea Seri, Stuart Tyson Smith, Lawrence Stager, Gábor Takács, Steve Vinson, Caroline Waerzeggers, David Weisberg, Bruce Williams, K. Lawson Younger, Andrzej Zaborski.

## Acknowledgments

The value, growth, and very existence of the Research Archives is dependent upon a wide array of people. We have received and accommodated the very generous donation of Dr. Gregory

## RESEARCH ARCHIVES

Areshian, consisting of nearly 1,500 books on the archaeology and languages of central Asia. With the mourned passing of Erica Reiner, one of the true giants in the field of Assyriology, many of her library materials were donated to the Research Archives through Martha Roth, now Dean in the Division of the Humanities. Dianne Yurco made a very remarkable and sentimental donation of books from the library of Egyptologist Frank Yurco, a well-known scholar who had been tremendously dedicated to the public outreach of the Oriental Institute.

A number of volumes we acquired through exchange with various institutions across the globe. I would like to see such numbers increase as these relationships are both crucial and cost-effective for scholarly institutions. Our exchange relationships would be absolutely impossible without the help of Wadad Kadi and the dedicated staff of the *Journal for Near Eastern Studies*, as well as Tom Urban, Leslie Schramer, and the entire Publications department. Thanks are also due to the following people for their donations to the library: Abbas Alizadeh, John Ingham, Robert Biggs, and Donald Whitcomb.

The day-to-day operations of the Research Archives owes much to the very capable staff with whom I have been lucky to work this year. Kenneth Yu has worked for the Research Archives for the past two years. With his recent graduation from the Department of Classics at the University of Chicago, he will be off to Boston for graduate study. Kenny has been responsible for the retrospective cataloging of monographs, starting with Z, which we hope to finish by the end of the summer. Laura Cappe, a graduate student in NELC studying Egyptian archaeology, spent the majority of her time this year cataloging recent acquisitions. She will be leaving us this fall to study ancient glass manufacturing. Erika Morey, who is currently finishing her M.A. in NELC at the university, has had the least enviable job among the library assistants: retrospective cataloging of the journals. The 10,000+ articles from *Bibliotheca Orientalis* have been the bane of her existence for the last eight months. We will also miss Erika when she leaves us in the fall for the scholarly pursuit of ancient bones. Laura Holzweg, who is currently in Cairo studying Arabic, focused on cataloging the monographs in cooperation with Kenneth Yu, starting with the letter K. Maria Yakubovich helped by entering links to online journals in the catalog before taking a full-time position with the university Career Advising and Planning Services department. I am grateful to the staff of library assistants for all their hard work over the course of the year. May we continue to have such dedicated staff members in the future!

I should also like to thank my library predecessors Chuck Jones and Magnus Widell for their continued support and assistance in every aspect of managing the Research Archives. They have been, and will continue to be, indispensable resources.

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*MUSEUM*





# MUSEUM

**Geoff Emberling**

The Museum staff has been busy and productive in the past year. We have presented two special exhibits, each with outstanding symposia and public programs; implemented two training programs for conservators from Middle Eastern countries; and built and developed programs for a new simulated dig — the Kipper Family Archaeology Discovery Center — that will begin offering tours this fall. And for the second year, Bruce Williams and I led an excavation team to Sudan to participate in the salvage project at the Fourth Cataract of the Nile.

It is a pleasure to welcome two new members of our staff. Anna Ressman, Head of Photography, began in September 2007, and Susan Allison, Assistant Registrar, began in March 2008. And, at the same time, I would like to thank Jean Grant for her thirty-four years as Oriental Institute Photographer. Jean has been a cheerful presence in the Museum, as well as a photographer of great knowledge and a careful eye, and we miss her.

One of the most important projects done in the Museum since I arrived four years ago has been our revision of the Museum's mission statement and development of a strategic plan. As tedious as this might sound, the process itself turned out to be both interesting and rewarding, if difficult in some ways, and the result has been extremely useful for managing and planning.

Prompted by a need to have such a document for museum grant applications, by conversations with Oriental Institute Volunteer (and



*New Oriental Institute staff members Susan Allison (above) and Anna Ressman*



*Carole Yoshida, left, and Carole Krucoff, right, reminiscing with Jean Grant, center left, and her friend at a luncheon in Jean's honor. Photo by Anna Ressman*

## MUSEUM

Organizational Development consultant) Shel Newman, and by a sense that larger priorities were being overwhelmed by the urgent daily crises that we confront in the Museum, in 2006 I began a discussion about strategic planning with Head of Museum Education Carole Krucoff and Head of Conservation Laura D'Alessandro, both of whom have extensive experience in the museum world. We looked at mission statements and strategic plans from other museums, met with each section of the Museum to identify priorities, and thought ourselves about what the Museum's goals might be and how we could reach them. The final document, though brief, was in fact quite challenging to write. I consulted with Gil Stein and Steve Camp about individual points and broader ideas at each step along the way, and the Voting Members approved the text in the fall of 2007.

It is beyond the scope of this report to include the entire plan, but the revised mission statement is worth reprinting here.

As a major unit of the Oriental Institute, the Oriental Institute Museum promotes interest in and understanding of ancient civilizations of the Middle East, and their connections to the modern world, for a broad and diverse audience.

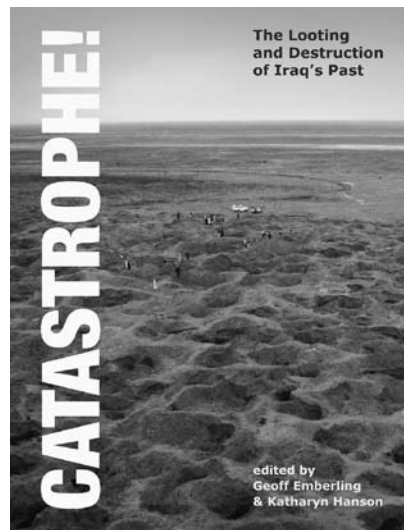
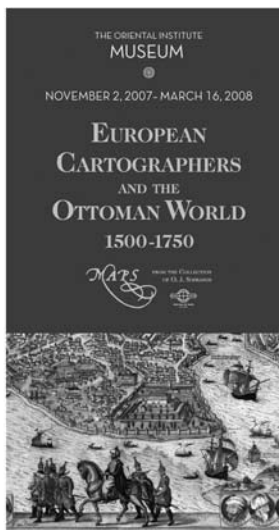
In order to tell the story of the rise of civilizations, communicate the excitement of archaeological, linguistic, and historical discovery, enhance understanding and appreciation of cultural similarities and differences, show connections between the ancient and modern worlds, and highlight the research of the Oriental Institute:

- we preserve our collections and information about them
- we facilitate and conduct research related to the collections
- we educate our general and scholarly audiences through informative and engaging exhibits, programs, and publications

The resulting strategic plan focused on three areas that we saw as our most urgent priorities.

The first of these is to increase public and scholarly access to the collections and research of the Oriental Institute. In 2007–2008 we inaugurated a program of posters on Oriental Institute research projects in the Star Chamber of the Museum, coordinated by Emily Teeter and designed by Hanau-Strain Associates. The first four posters present work of the CAMEL lab, Chicago House, the Hittite Dictionary, and the Zincirli project. We anticipate that other Institute research will be highlighted in this space in years to come. A number of other projects related to this goal are nearly completed, including the development of audiotours for the Museum, revising links and pages in the Museum portion of the Oriental Institute Web site for simpler access and navigation, and publishing books on highlights of our collections — *Mesopotamia* (by Karen Wilson) and *Megiddo* (by Gabrielle Novacek). Over the longer term, we will continue working toward this goal by publishing additional books of “highlights” from our collection and by contributing to the development of an integrated database that will ultimately display information about and photographs of our objects and archival collections.

The Museum's second urgent priority is to continue to improve all aspects of our special exhibits program, from selection of topics that have broad interest (whether scholarly or public) through planning, fundraising, curation, and installation. The two special exhibits we installed this year — *European Cartographers* and *the Ottoman World, 1500–1750: Maps from the Collection of O. J. Sopranos*; and *Catastrophe! The Looting and Destruction of Iraq's Past* — were each outstanding in their own way.



**Banners for *European Cartographers and the Ottoman World, 1500–1750: Maps from the Collection of O. J. Sopranos***

**Cover of the *Museum Catalog Catastrophe! The Looting and Destruction of Iraq's Past***

We now have a regular planning process for special exhibits. Faculty, research staff, and graduate students can make proposals to a Special Exhibits committee, which makes recommendations to the Oriental Institute Director. Thanks to the work of the committee — Peter Dorman, Carole Krucoff, Emily Teeter, Don Whitcomb, and Chris Woods — we now have plans for exhibits over the next three years. While this may seem to be a long planning horizon, it is in fact a minimum to allow for fundraising, curation, catalog-writing, and exhibit design. We now plan the following exhibits over the next three years (titles and dates subject to change!):

- Winter 2009: The Life of Meresamun: Temple Singer in Ancient Egypt (curated by Emily Teeter)
- Fall 2009: The 1919/1920 Oriental Institute Expedition to the Near East (curated by John Larson)
- Spring 2010: Inventions of Writing in the Ancient Middle East (curated by Chris Woods)
- Fall 2010: Earliest Egypt (curated by Emily Teeter)
- Spring 2011: New Light on Earliest Kush (curated by Geoff Emberling and Bruce Williams)
- Fall 2011: The Lost Kingdom of Urartu (curated by Professor of Anthropology Adam Smith)

We have also begun a regular process of evaluation of special exhibits, with evaluations being designed by Carole Krucoff and implemented by very bright and energetic interns Brennan Jorgenson and Kate Flinner (with help from Sofia Fenner). These evaluations have given us a great deal of very useful information about what has worked well and what can be improved in future exhibits.

The third of our three urgent strategic priorities is to improve aspects of museum storage. The most pressing of these problems is our ongoing project, supported by the Institute for Museum and Library Services, to rehouse our object collections in state-of-the-art cabinets. We have been very fortunate to have received funding for this project over the past ten years, and although important parts of the collection remain to be rehoused, we can hope to be able to continue this project through to completion within the next few years.

## MUSEUM

Another extremely urgent collections-management problem is the state of the Archives, which are simply overflowing, making access to these records increasingly difficult. We have begun a triage of the collection by making the first shelf list of the records since they have arrived in this new storage area, and preparing to send some less-frequently used records to an off-site storage location for now. We will ultimately need to use the storage space in the Archives as efficiently as possible, which may involve constructing a mezzanine and installing compact rolling shelving.

At the same time as these larger strategic priorities are being addressed, the Museum staff has been efficiently working on the ongoing cataloging of the object collection, active scanning of groups of archival records and photographs, and preparation of a database of archives photographs.

An ongoing internship program with the Master of Arts Program in Social Studies, coordinated by Professor Morris Fred, had an extremely successful second year. We had nine interns this year working on projects in Education, Archives, the Prep Shop, Photography, and in Special Exhibits. They have allowed us to expand our activities greatly, and we thank them for their energy and enthusiasm.

The year to come promises to be extremely busy. To mention just a few highlights: We will be opening an exhibit on Meresamun, temple singer of Amun. We will be significantly improving signage in the lobby. We are hoping to begin giving more sustained attention to marketing across the Institute to increase attendance in the Museum and at events (thereby reaching both our educational and fundraising goals). We will soon begin a project to catalog the unregistered Assyrian reliefs in our basement storage, currently estimated at about 500 large and small fragments. We hope to publish books on the highlights of our Mesopotamian and Megiddo collections.

The quality of work being done in the Museum is emphasized by the range of support we have received from government grants, corporate sponsors, private foundations, and individual donors, and I would like to thank all of our supporters (too numerous to list here, but named in the back of this report).

I would also like to thank Gil Stein and Steve Camp for guidance and generous support both for Museum programs and for efforts to integrate Museum activities into the Institute more broadly. I thank each member of the Museum staff for consistently cooperative and efficient work — having such colleagues is a rare and good fortune. Our special-exhibit teams worked extremely well — in particular, I would like to mention Special Exhibit Coordinator Emily Teeter; curators Ian Manners, McGuire Gibson, and Katharyn Hanson; Jim Sopranos; Designer Dianne Hanau-Strain; Preparator Erik Lindahl; Curatorial Assistant Tom James; Photographer Anna Ressman; intern Sofia Fenner; and (last and certainly not least) Head of Education Carole Krucoff.

Finally, thanks to Peter Dorman as he leaves the Oriental Institute for the American University of Beirut — for his friendship, support of a wide range of museum programs, and many great meals and laughs along the way.

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## SPECIAL EXHIBITS

### Emily Teeter

It is amazing how quickly a year flashes by and to realize that the time period covered by this report encompasses three special exhibits. The first, *Daily Life Ornamented: The Medieval Persian City of Rayy*, curated by Tanya Treptow and Associate Professor (Research Associate) Donald Whitcomb (see *Annual Report 2006–2007*, pp. 154–55) closed on October 14, 2007.

The exhibit *European Cartographers and the Ottoman World, 1500–1750: Maps from the Collection of O. J. Sopranos*, opened November 2 and ran through March 16, 2008 (fig. 1). The show was made up primarily of maps from the collection of O. J. (Jim) Sopranos, the chair of our Visiting Committee. The concept for the exhibit originated from a conversation with Jim as I was admiring his collection. However, there is a lot of planning (about three and a half years in this case) that bridges the gap between the concept of a show and producing a meaningful exhibition. Of primary importance was finding a knowledgeable curator who could shape the materials into an understandable narrative. We were extremely lucky to find Ian Manners, Professor of Geography and Middle Eastern Studies at the University of Texas, Austin. Professor Manners was able to conceptualize the chronological perimeters of the exhibit and also to recommend what other materials had to be added to Jim's collection to really tell the story of the mapping of the Ottoman empire and the exchange of cartographic information between east and west.



*Special exhibit European Cartographers and the Ottoman World, 1500–1750: Maps from the Collection of O. J. Sopranos*

The exhibit led us into new curatorial waters, primarily with loans from the Special Collections Research Center of the University of Chicago's Joseph Regenstein Library, the Newberry Library in Chicago, and the Walters Art Museum in Baltimore. We can say that we now have a much better understanding of the complexity associated with loans. We thank Alice Schreyer, Director of the Special Collections Research Center and her staff Patty Gibbons, Preservation Manager, and Kerri Sancomb, Exhibition Specialist (who also made the complicated book cradles) for their assistance. At the Newberry Library, Robert W. Karrow, Jr., Curator of Maps, was a great advocate for the success of our exhibit, as were Program Assistant Lauren Reno and Director of Conservation Giselle Simon.

The exhibit opened with a discussion of the tradition of Ptolemy, then followed chronological innovations in cartography, features such as *Mapping the City*, and the importance and impact of travelers' accounts to the development of new maps.

We again called upon Hanau-Strain Associates of Chicago to shape the physical appearance of the exhibit. The fragile works on paper and vellum posed a special problem for the design of the exhibit, because several of the maps could not be exposed to more than 3 foot-candles of light. Tom James and Erik Lindahl experimented with lighting and ultimately blocked the windows in the gallery. Although we posted signs alerting visitors that the light levels were extremely low out of consideration for the maps, we had a number of critical comments in the visitor's book.

## SPECIAL EXHIBITS



**Robert and Dine (Geraldine) Dellenback, of the Dellenback Family Foundation, generous funders of the publication *European Cartographers and the Ottoman World, 1500–1750: Maps from the Collection of O. J. Sopranos***

To compensate for the dimness of the gallery and the amount of information on the labels, Hanau-Strain Associations prepared a handsome binder of large-print labels.

The catalog, like the exhibit itself, put us in new depths of complexity. The text, written by Manners and M. Pınar Emiralioğlu, called upon our organizational talents to coordinate new photography of the maps with the securing of images of the loans and additional illustrations. Tom Urban and Leslie Schramer of our Publications Office did a remarkable job with the catalog, our first to include a series of foldouts. The publication would not have been possible without the generosity of the Dellenback Family Foundation, headed by Robert and Geraldine Dellenback who, with their love of travel, geography, and maps, generously

supported the publication. We were honored that they were able to travel to Chicago to attend the opening of the exhibit.

On April 10, 2008, we opened *Catastrophe! The Looting and Destruction of Iraq's Past*. The exhibit was curated by Professor McGuire Gibson and graduate student Katharyn Hanson with the assistance of Clemens Reichel. The exhibit preview was timed to coincide with the fifth anniversary of the looting of the National Museum in Baghdad. The opening included a candlelight vigil and comments by Donny George, former director of the National Museum in Baghdad.

As seems to be the rule in special exhibits, this one posed its own set of challenges. One was the tone of the exhibit; we were dedicated to keeping as neutral a political tone as possible while discussing a highly politicized series of events. Second, as pointed out by Carole Krucoff in the earliest stages of exhibit planning, was the need to have an element of resolution such as suggestions of what visitors could do to support the protection of cultural heritage. In response, Katharyn Hanson did a wonderful job creating interactive sections of the exhibit “What Has Been Done?” and “What Can be Done?” that include summaries of international and national legislation pertaining to cultural heritage, a brochure with a list of Web sites for further information, and post cards addressed to senators urging them to support legislation to protect archaeological heritage.

The core of the exhibit is a selection of very strong photographs documenting damage to the museum and to archaeological sites. Dealing with images from a wide variety of sources created an unforeseen difficulty. Some of them were taken with early digital equipment that lacked the resolution necessary to enlarge the images as required. Oriental Institute Photographer Anna Ressler skillfully managed to interpolate the images. We also thank Mike Lavoie of M&G Graphics who assisted with other key images.

The curatorial team felt that the addition of objects would make the exhibit more visually compelling. However, we recognized that we had to be extremely careful in their presentation to avoid giving the casual visitor the impression that the objects were looted from the Iraq National Museum. Under Katharyn's direction, and with valuable input from Clemens Reichel, a selection of objects from the Oriental Institute's own collection was used to illustrate the importance of archaeological context, and what sort of information is lost when an object is looted.



*Special exhibit Catastrophe! The Looting and Destruction of Iraq's Past*

The exhibit included our first use of a video component. Thanks to Curatorial Assistant Tom James, intern Sofia Fenner, and the Chicago Media Initiative Group on campus, we were able to produce an eight-minute video loop of interviews and scenes of the museum and archaeological sites. The video succeeded in giving more immediacy and personality to the exhibit.

Early in the planning we realized how powerful the show was going to be and how important it is that it be shown elsewhere. Initially working with archaeologist Peter Stone, we produced a version of the exhibit that was shown at the Hatton Gallery in Newcastle and in Dublin during the Sixth World Archaeological Congress. Building on that experience, we have produced a traveling version of the exhibit supplied as digital files that can be printed by the host venue. We hope to have the exhibit shown in additional venues in the coming year. We welcome inquiries from museums, cultural centers, and archaeological societies.

In addition to the temporary exhibits in the Marshall and Doris Holleb Family Special Exhibits Gallery, a case of fake Egyptian antiquities was installed in the Joseph and Mary Grimshaw Egyptian Gallery. This was presented in November in conjunction with a program on frauds co-sponsored by the Oriental Institute, the Chicago History Museum, and the Newberry Library. The small show presented objects and explained why each was judged to be a forgery, in some cases showing the model from which the fake was copied.

Publicity for special exhibits in the last year came from three main sources: the hard work of William Harms of the University's News Office who spearheads publicity for the Institute's academic work; feature stories about Museum activities; and collaboration with city-sponsored programs.

The Rayy exhibit received a 5-star (out of 6!) review in *Time Out Chicago*. It was also featured in the *Hyde Park Herald* as: "Medieval Persian City of Rayy Shines in Exhibit."

A boon to our publicity efforts was the city-wide Festival of Maps that began in November 2007. This was backed by a professionally run, high-budget integrated marketing and publicity campaign to promote the group of institutions who were exhibiting cartographic related materials.

## SPECIAL EXHIBITS

To be honest, it was a lucky coincidence that we participated in the Festival of Maps. For several years before the announcement of the Festival, we had been planning a map exhibit and we were able to adjust our opening date to match the Festival's schedule.

Participation in the Festival of Maps brought us exposure that we could not have possibly organized or financed. We were included in a major kick-off press conference at the Field Museum with Mayor Daley. In preparation, Tom James and I prepared a very handsome digital press kit. The Festival's ad campaign was built around the graphic of a large red dot (as in "you are here" on a map). Two versions of a print ad were produced, each featuring three museums, and we were one of the selected institutions. The ad ran in publications such as *Vanity Fair*, *Architectural Digest*, *The New Yorker*, *Chicago Magazine*, *National Geographic*, *Where Chicago*, *Time Out Chicago*, and full pages in the *Chicago Tribune* and *Sun Times*. It also appeared on bus shelters throughout the city. One of the most valuable aspects of the collaboration was meeting and establishing relationships with many other city institutions. Other publicity specifically for our map show included two special features in *Saudi Aramco World* and a story in the *University of Chicago Magazine*.

As with our other special exhibits, we announced the show by means of banners on each side of the front door, and a gigantic red "you are here" Festival of Maps dot marked the entry of the exhibit.

The opening of the *Catastrophe!* exhibit on April 10 was scheduled to commemorate the fifth anniversary of the looting of the National Museum in Baghdad. The show has so far been featured in the *Chicago Tribune*, *New City*, the *Christian Science Monitor*, *Chicago Life*, *Archaeology Magazine*, and the *Bloomberg News*.

In the last year, aided by intern Madelynn Baeyer, we experimented with a direct-mail campaign highlighting the Museum as a fun and stimulating destination for clubs, retirement centers, and religious institutions. In spite of our efforts, there was surprisingly little response, but it was a good experiment in trying to attract new audiences.

We are greatly pleased by the success of the catalog program. The publications continue to sell briskly through the Suq and our distributor. Most of them are already out of print and plans are being made to initially reprint John Larson's book on the Breasted Nubian expedition and the map catalog. We are still experimenting with print runs. We printed 500 copies of *Daily Life Ornamented*, 740 for *European Cartographers*, and 1,000 for the *Catastrophe!* catalog. The greater number of the last was in anticipation of the exhibit having multiple venues.

## REGISTRATION

### Helen McDonald and Susan Allison

The most significant event of the year for Museum registration was the job search for a new Assistant Registrar and the appointment of Susan Allison, who joined us in March 2008. Susan received her M.A. in Egyptian Art and Archaeology from the University of Memphis and has worked at both the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology and the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston. She came to us from the Museum of Northern Arizona in

Flagstaff, where she had been organizing a major inventory project for their collection. Susan has plunged into the various tasks of registration with enthusiasm.

Following the success of another Institute of Museum and Library Services cabinet grant application by Laura D'Alessandro, we received another twenty cabinets in January of this year. Once Susan joined the staff we were able to begin the next stage of rehousing. Our current task is to unpack and rehouse ceramics from the site of Serra, one of the Aswan high dam salvage sites. Some of the material is unregistered, so we have had the additional task of registration. Susan is also taking digital photographs of a selection of the material as it is unpacked. Museum Preparator Erik Lindahl has been engaged in a project to rationalize the storage of our large stone items and heavier objects. This has been extremely helpful in making pieces more accessible and using space more effectively in storage.

This year we had two events that involved turning the Registration/Archives office area into a temporary display space. The first of these was a visit by the International Congress of Papyrologists on Sunday, August 5. Special Collections of the University of Chicago Regenstein Library lent us a selection of Greek papyri for this event. David Martinez of the Divinity School curated, and Erik Lindahl installed, an extra case in the Joseph and Mary Grimshaw Egyptian Gallery to display these papyri. In the Registration area we displayed a selection of Arabic and Demotic papyri for the papyrologists to peruse.

The second event was a visit by the International Bibliophiles group on October 2. The Oriental Institute was one of several institutions on their itinerary, the Newberry Library and Special Collections of the Regenstein, as well as a few private libraries being the others. We displayed several of our more attractive books and manuscripts, as well as a selection of our Islamic book bindings that had been part of a previous Oriental Institute Museum exhibit and catalog curated by John Carswell. Both these events were well attended and appreciated by the participants.

The Museum responded to an inquiry about dubious or faked items in our collection from the Chicago History Museum. They were planning a bus tour to a variety of Chicago's museums on this theme. Emily Teeter curated, and Erik Lindahl installed, an extra case in the Joseph and Mary Grimshaw Egyptian Gallery displaying some of our more doubtful Egyptian items in time for the bus tour on November 10.

The Registration department has moved over 68,000 objects this year (a 20% increase on the previous year). Over 31,000 of these objects were the subject of research of all kinds and nearly 2,500 were used in teaching. Over 12,000 were newly registered, nearly 20,000 were inventoried, and almost 2,000 rehoused. The Museum database now has around 200,000 object numbers.

It has been a busy year for visiting researchers. The Amuq publication project has continued to be a main focus of activity, as three researchers, Lynn Swartz Dodd (Tell Judaidah), Marina Pucci (Chatal Höyük), and Heather Snow (Tell Tayinat), continued to work on final publications of the later levels at those sites. We have hosted visits from all the Amuq researchers this year and we continue to register both sherds and objects from Amuq sites. Marina Pucci left in March after a year and a half in Chicago, but is expected back for a visit in late July. Heather Snow and James Osborne (Tayinat, Iron I pottery) were with us for the month of January and James returned for a fortnight in May. Brian Janeway (Tayinat, Iron II pottery) came for a week in June and Lynn Swartz Dodd came for visits in January and March. Both Marina and Lynn have recruited NELC students to assist with digital imaging and database work (Courtney Jacobson, Dan Mahoney, Natasha Ayers, and Virginia Rimmer for Judaidah and Tamara Leviton for Chatal Höyük). So the Amuq office in the Archaeology Labs has also been a hive of activity.

Eliot Braun came for two weeks in October to work on the material from the Megiddo early stages. This period at the site had been identified by the excavators as Chalcolithic, but it is now

## REGISTRATION

understood to be Early Bronze Age in date. Eliot is preparing a systematic publication of this material.

Eric McCann visited for three weeks in December 2007 to study a series of tomb groups from the Nubian sites of Qustul and Ballana dating to the late Meroitic, post-Meroitic, and early X Group periods. This study is part of his Ph.D.

Tasha Vorderstrasse was here for a few days in December to look at our Islamic glazed Minai ware from the site of Rayy (Iran) as part of a larger study of Minai ware.

Lisa Kealhofer and Peter Grave of the Anatolian Iron Age project came for ten days in April of this year. They had applied for permission to sample Alishar pot sherds for neutron activation analysis. The project has already sampled sherds from Kerkenes Dağ and Cadir Höyük among other sites and has collected a variety of clay sources around Alishar. Due to time constraints, the Registrars needed to register the sherds to be sampled immediately before the samples were taken. We registered some 300 sherds during their visit. Sampling was carried out under the watchful eye of head conservator Laura D'Alessandro. The samples have been sent to a lab in Australia for processing and then to the reactor and it is hoped that results will be available later this year.

The collections continue to be used for teaching and research by Oriental Institute staff, NELC faculty, and students.

Donald Whitcomb used Islamic sherds from Samarra and Fustat for a class held in the winter quarter.

Jan Johnson used papyrus OIM 19422 for a class in February.

McGuire Gibson used a quantity of sherds from the Nippur and from the Adams Akkad and Warka surveys for a class on Mesopotamian pottery in the winter quarter. He borrowed some of the same material again in order to discuss the ceramics of southern Mesopotamia with visiting researchers.

Robert Ritner used the largest Demotic marriage contract, OIM 17481, for a class in the spring quarter.

Hratch Papazian once again used two hieratic ostraca for a class in the autumn quarter.

Abbas Alizadeh used Chogha Mish sherds for a course on the earlier pottery of Susiana in the spring quarter. This gave us the opportunity to keep his selection of sherds together as a teaching collection for the Early, Archaic, Middle, and Late Susiana periods.

Nadine Moeller used a selection of Egyptian pottery for a class on the material culture of the Old Kingdom in the spring term.

Karen Wilson completed her work on material from Bismaya and has been working on a guide to the Edgar and Deborah Jannotta Mesopotamia Gallery. She is now also working on a publication of the pottery from the Inanna temple sounding at Nippur with McGuire Gibson and others. These sherds came to the Oriental Institute from the Institute of Fine Arts in New York, after the sad passing of Donald Hansen who had been working on the material.

Angela Altenhofen has continued to draw seal impressions for the Diyala project. She has also been drawing votive bed fragments for a forthcoming volume on material from Medinet Habu by Emily Teeter. The Coptic lintel on display in the Robert F. Picken Family Nubia Gallery was drawn by her for Robert Ritner's article in the *Journal of Near Eastern Studies*.

Benjamin Studevant-Hickman studied Bismaya tablets.

Mike Fisher studied a selection of Diyala sealings for a class paper.

Erika Morey studied Egyptian miniature ceramic vessels for a paper for Nadine Moeller's Old Kingdom material culture class. Courtney Jacobson did the same for a selection of Egyptian stone vessels.

Elise MacArthur studied Pre- and Early Dynastic Egyptian objects.

Tynan Kelly has been working on two of our Druze manuscripts for his undergraduate dissertation.

Katharyn Hanson and Clemens Reichel examined and selected Diyala seals and tablets for the Catastrophe! exhibit.

John Dechant came in to look at some of our more decorated Arabic and Persian manuscripts with a view to selecting illustrations for Michael Sells' module on Writing and Literature to appear on the Oriental Institute Web site.

It has also been a busy year for loans. Earlier this year we lent an incantation bowl to the Institute of Humanities of the University of Michigan for an exhibit called Spirit into Script to mark the opening of their new building. At the end of March the Smart Museum of the University of Chicago borrowed several Diyala worshipper statues, a couple of Syro-Palestinian metal figurines of deities, and a tablet whose text relates to divine statues. At the time of writing, there is an exhibit called Idol Anxiety that explores representations of the divine in a variety of ancient and more recent societies at the Smart Museum. In February we lent the four-faced bronze god statuette from Ischali (Diyala) and one of our Bardin oil paintings of Babylon to an exhibit held in the Louvre (Paris) entitled Babylone. This traveling exhibition has now moved on to the Pergamon Museum in Berlin. The painting is already back here and the bronze god will return in October. The loan of the bronze god was a particular challenge for the Museum loan committee. It was decided that in case of loss or damage, it would be best if a three dimensional scan could be made before it went out on loan. Laura D'Alessandro investigated the various alternatives and in February the company Direct Dimension came in with some very high-tech equipment to do the scanning. At the end of June we will be lending a papyrus relating to the Emperor Hadrian to the British Museum (London) for an exhibit entitled Hadrian: Empire and Conflict.

As to incoming loans, the exhibit European Cartographers and the Ottoman World, 1500–1750: Maps from the Collection of O. J. Sopranos was almost all loaned material. The largest part of the exhibit consisted of maps lent from the collection of O. J. (Jim) Sopranos. There were also loans from the Walters Art Museum in Baltimore, the Newberry Library in Chicago, and Special Collections of the Regenstein.

We have answered queries on subjects as diverse as Egyptian royal figured ostraca, statues of the goddess Sekhmet, Nubian human remains, the fittings of Egyptian portable shrines, and provided detailed measurements of some of the Megiddo gold jewelry.

These accomplishments have been made possible by the capable and efficient efforts of our Museum Assistant Courtney Jacobson, with the assistance of a wonderful group of volunteers, including Joan Barghusen, Gretel Braidwood, Joe Diamond, Alison Hade, Janet Helman, Barbara Levin, Daila Shefner, Toni Smith, Jim Sopranos, and Raymond Tindel. This summer we have also been joined by intern Lara Weiss, an Egyptology student from the University of Leiden. She has been assisting with the rehousing and registration of the Serra material. The volunteers have altogether contributed well over a thousand hours of their time to Museum Registration and we are grateful for all their help.

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## ARCHIVES

### John A. Larson

As of December 2007, John Larson has served as Museum Archivist for twenty-seven years.

#### Photographic Services

Margaret Schroeder, Assistant Archivist, is responsible for preparing the paperwork and handling all the other details that are involved in processing the requests we receive for Oriental Institute proprietary images and reproduction permissions. Between July 1, 2007, and June 30, 2008, Margaret logged 262 requests. This represents an increase of 12 percent over the total for the previous fiscal year. Income for 2007–2008 totaled \$11,537.00, a decline of 14 percent from last year's figure. The income from photographic image sales and reproduction fees enables us to purchase archival supplies and equipment for the Archives and for Photography.

Margaret has also scanned several thousand of the black-and-white negatives in the Archives and entered the metadata for the images into our photo image database.

#### Archives

Visiting scholars during fiscal year 2007–2008 included Jeffrey Abt, Gwenda Blair, Frederick Bohrer, Eliot Braun, Lynn Schwarz Dodd, Eric McCann, Ali Mousavi, James Osborne, Marina Pucci, and Heather Snow. From within our own Oriental Institute community, Vanessa Davies, Robert Ritner, Emily Teeter, and Karen L. Wilson have conducted research using Archives materials. On January 24, 2008, John Larson conducted a behind-the-scenes tour and set up a small Archives exhibit for a group of representatives from North Central College in Naperville, Illinois — the Alma Mater of our founder, James Henry Breasted. We would also like to thank Thomas James for his many contributions to the operation of the Archives.

#### Recent Acquisitions

A generous gift from Barbara Breasted Whitesides has enabled us to purchase a third digital scanning work station for the Archives, including a large-format scanner that can accommodate originals measuring up to 11 × 14". A gift from Patrick Regnery and the Coleman Foundation supports the ongoing project of Carole Yoshida in the Oriental Institute's slide library. We would like to thank Barbara and Patrick for their thoughtful and generous contributions to the work of the Oriental Institute Archives. We would also like to thank Prof. Emer. Robert D. Biggs and Prof. Emer. John A. Brinkman for their contributions of Oriental Institute-related ephemera to the Archives during the past year.

#### Volunteers and Student Assistants

The following people have contributed their time during fiscal year 2007–2008 and have made it possible for us to begin, continue, and complete a number of projects in the Oriental Institute Archives that would not have been possible without their generosity and dedication: Hazel Cramer, Peggy Grant, Patricia Hume, Sandra Jacobsohn, Roberta Kovitz, Lillian Schwartz, Robert Wagner, and Carole Yoshida. We are very grateful for the services of these volunteers, and it is a pleasure to acknowledge them here for their efforts on behalf of the Archives.



Throughout the summer of 2007, Jessica Henderson worked on new shelf lists for the Archives Storage Room and other tasks, under the supervision of John Larson. During the academic year, John was assisted by Bryan Moles and by two graduate students from the MAPSS program, Eliza Chiasson and Shir Lerman. Elizabeth Wolfson began working as a summer intern in the Archives on June 9, 2008.

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## CONSERVATION

### Laura D'Alessandro

Over the past twelve months the conservation laboratory has been filled to capacity as the Oriental Institute hosted two back-to-back conservation training programs for conservators from the Middle East. When Gil Stein announced last year that the Institute had received two grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) to fund two six-month training programs, we never envisioned that the programs would run consecutively. But the timing of the programs was dependent on the participants' success in obtaining visas, and, as they were approved, the programs' timetables were set.

Between providing lectures, workshops, and hands-on practical training, the conservation staff was kept busy. Alison Whyte, Assistant Conservator, and Monica Hudak, Contract Conservator, had active roles in the training programs and were key to their success. Many people within the Institute helped with all the administrative and logistical issues that arose and we thank all of them. Despite a very full schedule, the visiting conservators also found time to take in some of the cultural sights of Chicago; took back many photographs; and, hopefully, many wonderful memories of their time here.

The eagerly anticipated laser-cleaning system, funded by a generous grant by the Women's Board of the University of Chicago, is soon to become a reality. The training programs delayed the arrival of the laser but it has finally been ordered and should be here by summer's end. The conservation staff will be receiving basic training on the equipment this summer, but in the late fall will attend a specialized course in Liverpool, England. Unique among training programs, this course focuses on the science involved in using lasers on art objects.

Despite the heavy demands of the training programs, Alison still found time to take part in the myriad activities associated with the Museum's special exhibits and loans. In addition, in the spring, Alison attended the annual meeting of the American Institute of Conservation held in Denver, Colorado, where she presented a poster of her work on the analysis and conservation of an interesting salt-crystal growth on several objects in the Robert and Deborah Aliber Persian Gallery.

Monica was kept busy with duties associated with the training program, but her primary focus the past six months has been her continued work as contract conservator for the Persepolis Fortification Archive Project. She has been ably assisted by Jeanne Mandel, a part-time contract conservator, who has been working with Monica on the conservation of these important artifacts.

As we look back on the past year, we realize that, despite the hard work and general craziness that was part and parcel of the training programs, we can see that the opportunity afforded by

## CONSERVATION

these programs — to spend time with our Middle Eastern colleagues in a peaceful environment and share common experiences — was truly priceless. All our colleagues have returned home and rejoined their families and co-workers. With all of the uncertainties that they deal with on a daily basis, we can only send our thoughts and wishes for their continued well-being.

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## PREP SHOP

**Erik Lindahl**

The Prep Shop would like to say thank you to everyone who has kept us busy with a wide range of challenges this year. Together we have designed, built, moved, and removed many things. New programs were created, exhibit materials were gathered from near and far, and space was made for future projects. This year was a year of growth. The majority of the last year was spent working on two exhibits and the construction of the new Kipper Family Archaeology Discovery Center. The balance of our time was spent maintaining the Museum with the help of intern Allison Hade, making space in the basement for both new storage cabinets and work related to the eventual publication of the Assyrian relief fragments in the collection, and building a retail display case for the Suq.

European Cartographers and the Ottoman World, 1500–1750: Maps from the Collection of O. J. Sopranos was an exciting and polished exhibit that was executed seemingly flawlessly as a result of positive attitudes, much cooperation, skill, and many deadlines met in a timely manner by all those involved. These maps from the collection of Jim Sopranos, the Newberry Library, Special Collections of the Regenstein Library, and the Walters Art Museum were displayed beautifully in cases, some of which were fabricated here at the Oriental Institute with the help of Andrew Furse. The framing of the wall-hung pieces was also done in house. Kerri Sancomb, Exhibition Specialist from Regenstein Special Collections, was able to spare some time to help us both construct cradles for the books and install the exhibit. David Marine was on hand as Assistant Preparator. The challenges of this exhibit were the low and varied light level restrictions, coordinating with lending institutions to meet their needs, and maintaining a good work flow.

The Catastrophe! exhibit was a departure from the sort of exhibit we usually put together at the Oriental Institute. It was invigorating to try some new things and satisfying to work on such a timely subject. McGuire Gibson's knowledge, connections, and drive coupled with Katharyn Hanson's excitement and diligence created a wonderful curatorial dynamic. The consensus among the design team was that we wanted a more open feel for this show, with a hint of modern Middle Eastern museum aesthetic. This was accomplished through choice of wall color, high-contrast lighting, and the use of smaller display cases on which we applied a cement veneer. The Chicago Media Initiatives Group's Ben Holtz helped out with the video installation, and Rob Soller was on hand as Assistant Preparator. John Larson was kind enough to supply us with archive materials to enrich the display. The only real problem we encountered during the production was related to the use photos of less-than-ideal quality, and this was handled deftly by Anna Ressman.

The Kipper Family Archaeology Discovery Center is coming together very smoothly, especially considering its scope and accelerated production schedule. This project has demonstrated

the ability of many different departments within the Oriental Institute to come together as a team to achieve a complicated goal in short period of time; faculty, administrative staff, Museum Education, students, Museum staff, Development, and the Director's Office have all worked together on this project. Here in the Prep Shop we had Brian Zimerle, Mat Federico, Rob Soller, and intern Allison Hade on hand for all the various stages of the construction of our now almost-complete collapsible tel.

Many things have been moved around the basement in the last year. In an effort to make space for new cabinets and the eventual publication of the Assyrian reliefs we have been assisting Registration in the rearrangement of basement storage. The positive added benefit of this space-management project will be that all the Assyrian relief fragments will be in one room.

The final stage of the Museum reinstatement project, the lobby redesign, is under way. As a part of this, the Suq has been receiving a gradual face-lift and the Prep Shop has been helping. With the consultation of Denise Browning we constructed a new display case for books and other items.

This last year has been an exciting one. With the official opening of the Kipper Family Archaeology Discovery Center and the Meresamun special exhibit on the horizon, the next looks as if it shall be as well.

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## SUQ

### Denise Browning

The Suq was thrilled to welcome three new volunteers this year! Ray Broms, Erika Coleman, and Judy Bell-Qualls. They have been a wonderful addition to the Suq.

In June the Suq participated for the first time in the Arabesque Festival downtown at Daley Plaza. The festival celebrated Arabic culture, cuisine, and music. We decorated our booth as a Middle Eastern *suq* and filled it with the many items we carry in our shop. We handed out over 500 brochures promoting the Oriental Institute to people who had never heard about us. Hopefully, this will translate into many new visitors and donors.

We had two major improvements to the infrastructure of the Suq. First, Erik Lindahl, Museum Preparator, built for the Suq three beautiful cases, one with lights, to upgrade our presence in the lobby. Second, we upgraded our computer and POS system, which keeps track of all our sales and inventory. Now we are able to produce very up-to-date sales analyses of our operations.

The European Cartographers exhibit allowed us to carry many wonderful new items. We developed



*The Suq's booth at the Arabesque Festival, held at the Daley Plaza in downtown Chicago. This year, the Suq won second place for best booth design. This festival of Arab and Middle Eastern culture is held in Chicago every year*



*Norma van der Meulen, Suq volunteer, carefully inspects a new piece of merchandise in the Suq. Photo by Terry Friedman*

three note cards and two posters for the exhibit, which continue to sell quite well.

In these economically challenged times the Suq was still able to achieve a 2 percent increase over last year's sales. None of this would have been possible without the help of our volunteers and staff. We continue to rely on our long-time loyal volunteers Peggy Grant and Norma van der Meulen (pictured), along with our three new volunteers. Their energy and enthusiasm attract many customers to the Suq. Norma also designs and creates such beautiful and unique jewelry for the shop!

Jennifer Westerfeld continues as our book buyer and marketing designer. Florence Ovardia continues to develop new and exciting displays. Plus, our student staff keeps us stocked and ready to go.

Many thanks to Amanda Finney, Alycia Hesse, Ashley Stanton, Jessica Moore, Nicole Lasky, and Megaera Lorenz.

## PHOTOGRAPHY

**Anna R. Ressman**

It has been a year of change for the Photography Department since I began working as the new Photographer for the Museum in September 2007. In the fall we were very lucky to hire an excellent intern and Photography Assistant, Kevin Bryce Lowry, an archaeologist and graduate student in the MAPSS program. Much of what has been accomplished this year could not have been done as well or as quickly without his help and hard work.

Due to advances in photographic technology and the rapidly declining availability of professional film and papers, the department is in the process of transitioning to a digital-based photographic studio. This transition requires a complete overhaul of equipment and working spaces. I spent many months researching which equipment will be most useful for the photographic needs of the Museum and am now in the process of writing a proposal for the funds needed to complete the modernization of the Photography Department.

Since the fall we have been cleaning out of the studio obsolete (and very hot) lights, backgrounds, and various accessories to make space for three customized lighting set ups I have designed for different types of object photography. A studio table with a large and durable surface for multiple small objects requiring precise macro-photography from above is currently under construction. Also being built is a flexible and efficient setup for photographing large objects with the same precision as the small-object photography. The lighting table originally purchased this October for small- and medium-object photography is being re-purposed as a dedicated setup for head-on photography of medium-sized objects. The other big change I hope to make in the studio

is the installation of tracks in the ceiling to replace tripods and light stands. This will increase the overall efficiency of the studio by decreasing set-up time and maximizing floor space to allow for simultaneous shoots. The ceiling tracks will also protect artifacts from accidental damage by decreasing the amount of equipment that must be navigated as artifacts are moved to and from lighting tables.

The Photography Department darkrooms have been cleared of film and paper developing chemicals. The various tools needed for film-based print making, including enlargers, lenses, and filters, are being consolidated and prepared for safe storage, as much of this equipment will be retained for occasional development of the most arcane formats in the Museum's archives. We hope to be able to purchase a laptop and additional computers in the upcoming year. The laptop will increase the quality of in situ photo shoots in the galleries and storage spaces, while the additional workstations will decrease processing and printing time. A workstation in the studio will provide the capability for live-view shoots, which means the camera will be controlled remotely through the computer while the monitor displays, in great detail, the scene that will be captured once the shutter is triggered. The live-view function will decrease the amount of time the objects are under the lights and will reduce the number of times an object is handled during a shoot.

The Department only owns one digital camera, which is now a few years old and was not designed for the demands of high-quality studio photography. The rest of the cameras are film based, including all the medium- and large-format equipment. In the coming year we hope to begin the modernization of our camera and lens stock with the purchase of professional-grade digital cameras and lenses. It is a large undertaking to replace an entire photography studio's inventory of equipment that was amassed over many decades. However, it will be worth it to bring all of the Museum's new photography in line with current requirements for digital printing and publishing.

In the midst of all of this transition, the Photography Department has been working on many interesting and exciting projects. The bulk of the new photography for the highlights book of the Mesopotamia collection has been completed and work is rapidly progressing for the highlights book of the Megiddo collection. In the process of completing these projects, new photographs



*Left: OIM A7119, four-faced god  
Iraq: Ishchali(?)  
Old Babylonian Period,  
18th–17th century B.C.  
Bronze  
17.3 cm H  
Purchased in Baghdad, 1930*

*Below: OIM A22212, griffin  
Palestine: Megiddo, Stratum VIIA  
Late Bronze Age II,  
13th century B.C.  
Ivory  
3.9 cm H, 9.1 cm W  
Excavated by the Oriental Institute,  
1936–1937*



## PHOTOGRAPHY

have been taken of some of the Museum's most important artifacts, including OIM A7119, a bronze four-faced god from Mesopotamia, and OIM A22212, an ivory plaque carved with a griffin from Megiddo. Other projects have included images for inclusion in an upcoming catalog from the Metropolitan Museum of Art, as well as objects being loaned to various museums for exhibition, including the Louvre and the British Museum.

Another major project this past year was the processing of the photographs used in the special exhibit *Catastrophe! The Looting and Destruction of Iraq's Past*. These were images by other photographers and archaeologists that came in as many formats as there were photographers. All the image files needed to be prepared for the large-format printing process used to create the panel displays of the exhibit. Many of the images were taken on early digital camera models that were made to produce standard enlargements no bigger than  $8 \times 10''$ , not the large sizes that the exhibit required — some were over five feet wide!

Recently, photography was begun for the upcoming special exhibit on the mummy Meresamun. She was removed from her case in the Joseph and Mary Grimshaw Egyptian Gallery and transported to the University of Chicago Hospital for a CT scan. Photography was taken of the entire process, including her trip in a moving van and the actual CT scan. Other projects have included the installation record of the special exhibit *European Cartographers and the Ottoman World, 1500–1750: Maps from the Collection of O. J. Sopranos*. A record was also made for the *Catastrophe!* exhibit, as well as of the opening night reception and the corresponding symposium, *Looting the Cradle of Civilization: The Loss of History in Iraq*. Event photography was taken for many of the excellent programs held in the Museum this past year, including a speech given by Ali Babacan, Turkey's Minister of Foreign Affairs, and a retrospective of the photographic work of Jean Grant, my predecessor and the Museum's Photographer for over thirty years.

I would like to thank everyone at the Institute for their willingness to help me in my first year as the Museum's Photographer. It has been an honor and a pleasure to work with so many people who are very accomplished and extremely friendly. Those in the Registration and Conservation departments with whom I work most regularly on photo shoots are always willing to answer my questions. I also need to acknowledge a few individuals for their time and hard work. Thomas James, the Museum's Curatorial Assistant, graciously offered his help whenever it was needed. Both he and Erik Lindahl, the Museum's Preparator, worked very hard during the re-organization of the Department's workspaces. Meggie Shortle became a Photography Assistant volunteer this spring and has been helping me during shoots once a week. Volunteer Carole Yoshida was instrumental in making sure that all of Jean Grant's personal belongings made it safely to her home.

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## MUSEUM EDUCATION

### Carole Krucoff

Educational activities for adults, youth, and families served 17,956 participants this past year, an increase of 19.6 percent from the previous year. This increase is largely due to the family activities Museum Education is providing for children and their parents, and to a broad range of collaborations with long-time and new partners on campus, throughout the community, and even across the nation. Collaborations ranging from adult education to media campaigns to grant funded projects are visible throughout this report.

Support from the Polk Bros. Foundation and Chicago Public Schools is helping us provide in-depth museum learning experiences for families, teachers, and students. The Geographic Society of Chicago, the Replogle Foundation, and the University of Chicago's Center for International Studies have helped us offer professional development programming for K–12 teachers. And a major award from the National Endowment for the Humanities is supporting a ground-breaking initiative to provide high-school educators with online resources to help build student understanding of the ancient and contemporary Middle East.

### Major Initiatives for Teachers and Students

Empowering teachers to enrich student learning through meaningful classroom and museum study of ancient civilizations is a mandate for Museum Education. A vital way for us to reach this goal is to draw upon the scholarly expertise, renowned collections, and online capabilities of the Oriental Institute. This past year three very different initiatives helped us meet this mandate in ways that will benefit teachers and students today and well into the future.

### Teaching the Middle East: A Resource for High School Educators

In 2007 the Oriental Institute and two on-campus partners — the Center for Middle Eastern Studies (CMES) and the e-CUIP Digital Library Project of the Chicago Public Schools/University of Chicago Internet Project — received a major award from the National Endowment for the

Humanities to create Teaching the Middle East: A Resource for High School Educators. The goal of this two-year project is to provide high-school world-history teachers across the nation with an extensive online resource that draws upon the best in humanities scholarship to help build student understanding of the ancient and contemporary Middle East (fig. 1). At present, such material is in short supply or, in many cases, does not even exist. Teaching the Middle East will provide an online learning library that enables educators nationwide to focus on key issues and events, shape meaningful lesson plans in the Middle East, and help their students examine the stereotypes that abound in today's society.



**Figure 1.** Web site for *Teaching the Middle East: A Resource for High School Educators* features the University of Chicago scholars contributing to this National Endowment for the Humanities project

## MUSEUM EDUCATION

The academic essays in Teaching the Middle East's online learning library are being created by thirteen University of Chicago scholars:

- Orit Bashkin, Assistant Professor of Modern Middle Eastern History
- Fred M. Donner, Professor of Near Eastern History
- Geoff Emberling, Museum Director of the Oriental Institute
- Janet H. Johnson, Morton D. Hull Distinguished Service Professor of Egyptology
- Wadad Kadi, The Avalon Foundation Distinguished Service Professor of Islamic Studies
- Michael Sells, John Henry Barrows Professor of Islamic History and Literature in the Divinity School
- A. Holly Shissler, Director of the Center for Middle Eastern Studies and Assistant Professor of Ottoman and Modern Turkish History
- Gil J. Stein, Professor of Archaeology and Director of the Oriental Institute
- Martin Stokes, Professor of Music and Ethnomusicology at the University of Oxford and former Director of the Center for Middle Eastern Studies at the University of Chicago
- Matthew W. Stolper, Professor of Assyriology and the John A. Wilson Professor of Oriental Studies
- Christopher Woods, Associate Professor of Sumerology
- John E. Woods, Professor of Iranian and Central Asian History, and of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations.

Martha Roth, Professor of Assyriology, was also an original contributor. When she recently became Dean of the Humanities, Professor Roth asked if Jennie Myers, Research Associate and Assyriologist, might take her place. Dr. Myers graciously agreed and joined us this summer.

Seventeen graduate research assistants from CMES are helping the project's scholars. Eight high-school educators have become our Teacher Advisory Board. These educators, whose feedback and ideas have been invaluable, include: Farhat Khan, Manager of the Multicultural Resource Center of the Office of Language and Cultural Education for Chicago Public Schools; Maryhelen Matijevic, Assistant Principal for Curriculum and Instruction, Mount Carmel High School; Blake Noel, Social Studies teacher, Bronzeville Scholastic Institute; Lisa Perez, Area Library Coordinator, Department of Libraries and Information Services for Chicago Public Schools; Peter Scheidler, Social Studies teacher, and Mike Shea, World Studies teacher, both of Kenwood Academy High School; Laura Wangerin, History teacher, Latin School of Chicago; and Howard Wright, World Studies/History teacher, Hinsdale South High School.

Wendy Ennes, Oriental Institute Museum Education's Teacher Services and e-Learning Coordinator, is the manager and driving force of this wide-ranging project. She supervises the work of the CMES students; creates and manages the timetable for the entire project; plans and facilitates meetings with faculty, student assistants, and teacher advisors; provides photography for imagery used in the project; and handles all budgetary concerns. Rasheed Hosein, former Director of Outreach for CMES, was her initial management collaborator. Alex Barna, CMES's new Outreach Coordinator, is now the CMES liaison. Christie Thomas and Steven Lane of e-CUIP are designing the Teaching the Middle East Web site, and Julia Borst Brazas is the project's professional evaluator. This unique and extraordinary partnership, which combines the expertise of scholars,



teachers, museum educators, and technology professionals, holds great promise to enrich teaching and learning about the Middle East for many years to come.

### **The Kipper Family Archaeology Discovery Center**

This year, the Oriental Institute became the home of the Kipper Family Archaeology Discovery Center, a simulated archaeological dig that recreates an ancient Near Eastern excavation site. Located in the LaSalle Banks Room, this exciting hands-on learning environment is designed to involve teachers, students, and other participants in experiencing the joys and challenges of archaeological discovery.

Each year, thousands of schoolchildren visit the Oriental Institute to explore our renowned ancient Near Eastern collection as part of their state-mandated curriculum on the ancient world. The Kipper Center allows us to enrich the educational value of these museum visits by inviting students to investigate ancient civilizations with the methods archaeologists use to unearth the past. In the Kipper Center, school groups use real tools to excavate trenches where they discover authentically designed artifact reproductions, including cuneiform tablets, oil lamps, jewelry, pottery sherds, human and animal figurines, and much more. They are then encouraged to think like scientists as they record and analyze their findings. After learning these processes, the groups take docent-led tours to discover how artifacts excavated by the Oriental Institute have gone “from ground to gallery,” bringing the ancient world to life.

The Kipper Center builds upon the acclaimed work of the Rosenbaum ARTiFACT Center, a simulated dig in operation at Chicago’s Spertus Museum for more than fifteen years. In 2006, the Center closed as part of the museum’s move to a new facility. Realizing how central the study of archaeology can be to school curricula, Spertus staff invited the Oriental Institute to purchase the resources of the ARTiFACT Center, which relate so well to the scope of the Oriental Institute’s collection and the excavations that have brought that collection to light. Susan Bass Marcus, Educator Emerita at the Spertus Museum and former Curator of the ARTiFACT Center, became our consultant as we reshaped and expanded the Spertus program in ways that illuminate the collections, excavations, and research mission of the Oriental Institute.

Constructing our own simulated excavation, modeling it as a “tel” in ancient Israel to connect with the museum’s exhibit on Oriental Institute excavations at Megiddo, and then developing the educational programming for our tel, was a year-long process that involved a whole team of Institute and Museum staff and docents. Aiding the team was a corps of student interns from the University of Chicago’s Master of Arts Program in the Social Sciences (MAPSS), who were introduced to us by Morris Fred, MAPSS Program Instructor and former Director of the Spertus Museum. Graduate student interns from other universities with an interest in the project also joined us.

During our development phase, Gil Stein, Oriental Institute Director, and Geoff Emberling, Museum Director, served as advisors on historical content and archaeological processes. Susan Marcus provided invaluable advice on the shaping of the tel’s educational program as a whole. Erik Lindahl, Head Preparator, planned and executed a brilliant tel design that opens and closes like stadium bleachers to retain the LaSalle Room’s flexibility as a multi-purpose space. Wendy Ennes, joined by MAPSS intern Lauren Vander Pluym and intern Katie Pawlicki from the University of Oklahoma, created the content and innovative “comic book” design of a pre-visit guide that teachers can use to prepare students for their dig experience (fig. 2). Wendy and Education Programs Assistant Jessica Caracci developed the educational materials for student use during the dig experience. Jessica also assumed overall responsibility for keeping us on schedule and

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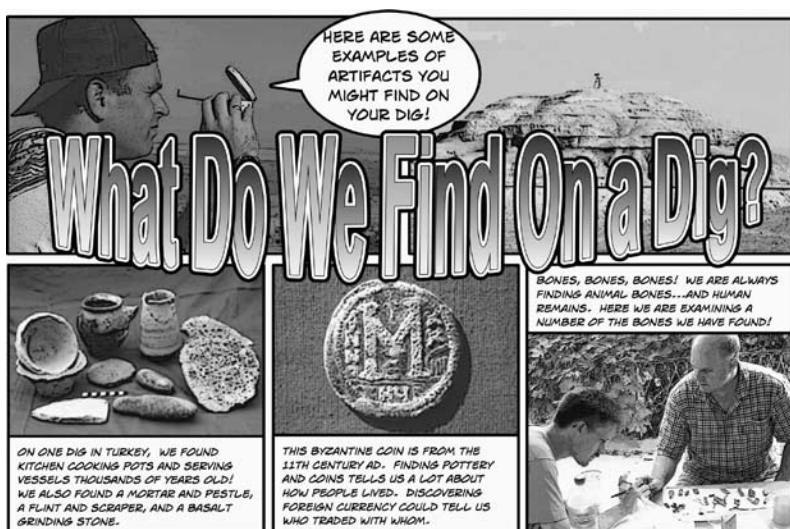


Figure 2. Educational materials in an appealing “comic book” format help teachers prepare students for a visit to the Kipper Family Archaeology Discovery Center. Materials prepared by Wendy Ennes, with interns Lauren Vander Pluy and Katie Pawlicki

supervising all the interns involved in the project. Along with Lauren and Katie, these included Anneliese Bruegel from Albion College and Anna Cohen and Julie Shackelford from the MAPSS program. They conducted research for the time periods of our tel, and then determined, obtained, and sometimes even created new artifact reproductions for the tel’s trenches. Eudora Struble, University of Chicago Ph.D. candidate in Syro-Palestinian Archaeology, supported the interns in their research.

Volunteer Coordinators Catherine Dueñas and Terry Friedman advised on all aspects of the tel’s development but focused their attention on the museum tour portion of the program. They were joined by docents Joe Diamond, Larry Lissak, and Roy Miller. Together they worked on new guided tour approaches to help students integrate and expand upon the themes and artifacts encountered during the dig.

To test the effectiveness of our efforts, we ended the development phase by piloting the program and obtaining feedback from teachers and students. Three sixth grade classes, each from



Figure 3. Students from Fiske Elementary School excavate trenches in the new simulated tel during a pilot program for the Kipper Family Archaeology Discovery Center. Docent Roy Miller (standing) observes, while intern Katie Pawlicki (upper left) helps students analyze their finds. Photo by Wendy Ennes



Figure 4. Two Fiske Elementary School students carefully uncover an artifact during the pilot program for the new Kipper Family Archaeology Discovery Center. Photo by Wendy Ennes

a different school, came to experience the entire dig and tour program, which was led for them by our interns and docents (figs. 3–4). When asked to evaluate the educational impact of the program all of the teachers ranked it as excellent. Even the students ranked the program highly. When they filled out forms asking what should be changed or improved, their most common answer was “Don’t change anything. It was great!”

Full operation of the Kipper Center is set to begin in fall 2008 with an emphasis on serving teachers and students in metropolitan-area schools. As the program continues we envision the Center becoming a springboard for a wide variety of programs and services that will serve families, youth, and special-needs audiences throughout Chicago and beyond.

### **Interactive Learning and the Middle East: Serving Schools and the Latino Community**

Over the past several years, the generosity of the Polk Bros. Foundation has enabled us to reach underserved school and family audiences in engaging and meaningful ways. Most recently, this partnership has focused on producing Family Activity Cards in both English and Spanish for all our galleries and interactive computer activities that are now available on computer kiosks throughout the Museum.

This winter, the Polk Bros. Foundation awarded us a major new grant for Interactive Learning and the Middle East: Serving Schools and the Latino Community. This new project is allowing us to develop a Spanish-language version for our computer kiosks, which will transform our Museum into a truly welcoming environment for parents and children from Chicago’s growing Latino community. However, this new award also addresses another vital audience — underserved teachers and students in the Chicago Public Schools.

Since the installation of Family Activity Cards and computer kiosks into our galleries, teachers and administrators visiting the Museum have told us these resources would significantly enrich state-mandated curriculum for subject matter and technology instruction if they were available for classroom use. The Interactive Learning project is helping us do exactly that! This spring an advisory panel of sixth-grade teachers representing a broad cross section of schools and student needs joined us to help transform the Family Activity Cards and computer interactives into curriculum-related DVDs in both English and Spanish. Our advisors include: Ninfa Flores from Nightingale School, where the student population is almost entirely Latino; Joanne Groshek from Bell School, whose classes include hearing-impaired and other special-needs students; Jeff Sadoff from Jackson Language Academy, which has a large gifted student population; Stephanie Davis from Fiske School, where the student population is almost entirely African-American; and Mary Cobb from Ray School in the Hyde Park community that surrounds the University of Chicago. Partnering with these teachers is key to the solid educational outcomes we believe will emerge from this project.

Along with our advisors, the Museum staff and consultants involved in the Interactive Learning project have all the expertise needed to ensure its success. Maria Teresa Chagnon, who holds a degree in Romance Languages from the University of Chicago, is translating into Spanish all the written and spoken information that accompanies each computer kiosk activity. Ninfa Flores, a member of our teacher advisory panel, is also serving as the project’s Spanish-language editor, a crucial role since her expertise as a bilingual education teacher makes her aware of student language needs. Volunteer Coordinator Catherine Dueñas, who is fluent in Spanish, is consulting on ways Spanish-speaking visitors can best be introduced to the Museum collection.

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**Figure 5.** *Nitzan Mekel-Bobrov and Wendy Ennes consider approaches for integrating a Spanish-language option into the Museum's interactive computer kiosks, a project funded by the Polk Bros. Foundation. Photo by Jessica Caracci*

Nitzan Mekel-Bobrov, who holds a Ph.D. in Genetics from the University of Chicago, served as computer programmer and multimedia architect for all our computer kiosk interactives. He has returned for this new project, bringing all the technological skills needed to transform our activities into a bilingual format for the kiosks and to develop a bilingual DVD that provides educationally sound teaching and learning resources. Wendy Ennes is serving as the project's Art Director, the role she played in the development of our Family Activity Cards and kiosks (fig. 5). Wendy is supervising the scheduling for the Spanish translation process. She will also supervise the redesign of computer formats for the new Spanish-

language version and will develop the format and design for the new DVDs. In addition, Wendy is facilitating the teacher advisory panel meetings and their creation of supplemental materials and lesson plans for the DVDs. Once the DVDs are produced, Jessica Caracci will design and implement a marketing campaign for them, so that information about these unique educational resources is available to teachers locally, regionally, and nationally, as well as to educators in Spanish-speaking countries around the world.

### Other Teacher Services

We are always seeking avenues to familiarize elementary and high school teachers with the many ways Oriental Institute resources can help enrich study of the ancient world for students. While outreach through mailings and the Internet is vital, face-to-face interaction is also an important vehicle for reaching the community's educators. This fall we took part in the Chicago Cultural Center's Spotlight on Chicago, a resource fair for teachers and administrators sponsored by the city's Department of Cultural Affairs. At this event, Jessica Caracci and Kathleen Mineck, docent and Oriental Institute Ph.D. candidate and Chicago Hittite Dictionary Research Professional, highlighted our guided gallery tours, award-winning curriculum guides, and the rich array of teaching and learning resources we make available in our online Teacher Resource Center (fig. 6). They also collected names and e-mail addresses of all the educators from throughout the metropolitan area who stopped by the Oriental Institute booth. Taking part in outreach events like this is invaluable in helping us share information about our current and new educational programming.



**Figure 6.** *Jessica Caracci displays Museum Education resources at the Spotlight on Chicago event held for educators at the Chicago Cultural Center. Photo by Kathleen Mineck*

## Adult Education

As with teacher services, collaboration was the watchword for this past year's adult education programs. These ranged from on-campus courses, correspondence classes, and a course offered on the Internet to a broad range of special events and free drop-by programs available throughout the year.

### Courses

Many of our adult education courses and programs are offered in partnership with the University of Chicago's Graham School of General Studies. This year we offered a wide variety of topics and experimented with two new formats. Our multi-session on-campus courses included *Nubia: Kingdoms and Cultures of Ancient Africa*, taught by Debora Heard; *Houses of Mystery: Temples of the Ancient Near East*, taught by David Calabro; *Herodotus: Father of History, Father of Lies*, taught by Dennis Campbell, and *You Say Water, I Say Water: In Search of Indo-Europeans*, taught by Ilya Yakubovich.

A special two-part seminar, *Spying on the Ancients: Archaeology From Above in the Middle East*, took place in a University of Chicago computer laboratory. There, Joshua Trampier provided a hands-on introduction to ways the Oriental Institute's CAMEL Laboratory uses satellite imagery, geographical information systems, and NASA space shuttle mapping to locate and "reconstruct" ancient cities. And we broke new ground by presenting *Iran Past and Present*, a course taught entirely online by Toby Hartnell, who presented slide lectures, moderated online group discussions, and took students on virtual tours to Iranian archeological and contemporary sites.

Correspondence courses were another approach to distance learning. *Hieroglyphs by Mail*, taught by Andrew Baumann and Mary Szbady, and *Cuneiform by Mail*, taught by Dennis Campbell and Monica Crews, attracted more than 100 students from across the nation and around the world, including locations that ranged from Canada to Belgium to South Africa.

### Special Events and Drop-by Programs

The Oriental Institute Museum's special exhibits inspired several events that were program highlights this past year. In summer we collaborated with the Chicago Architecture Foundation to develop a bus tour of Chicago-area buildings that feature Islamic-style design. Offered in conjunction with the special exhibit *Daily Life Ornamented: The Medieval Persian City of Rayy*, this tour included a stop at the Oriental Institute for a docent-led visit to the Rayy exhibit and permanent galleries. Most of the visitors were awed by a collection they had never known existed in Chicago. Offered twice, this bus tour sold out each time.

In fall, we presented *Mapping the World: From Ancient Babylon to the Ottoman Empire*, a one-day symposium in conjunction with the special exhibit *European Cartographers and the Ottoman World, 1500–1750: Maps from the Collection of O. J. Sopranos*. Presentations by Oriental Institute scholars and guest lectur-



*Figure 7. M. Pinar Emiralioğlu, guest speaker from the University of Pittsburgh, presents a slide lecture for Oriental Institute members and friends at the symposium Mapping the World: From Ancient Babylon to the Ottoman Empire. Photo by Wendy Ennes*

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ers explored ways that maps from ancient, classical, and Ottoman times chronicled the rise of geographic awareness and scientific knowledge, and the brilliant artistry and imagination of early mapmakers. Symposium presenters included: Clifford Ando, Professor of Classics, University of Chicago; Geoff Emberling, Oriental Institute Museum Director; M. Pınar Emiralioğlu, Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of History, University of Pittsburgh; Robert W. Karrow, Jr., Curator of Special Collections and Curator of Maps, The Newberry Library; and Donald Whitcomb, Associate Professor and Research Associate, Islamic and Medieval Archaeology, Oriental Institute (fig. 7). Offered in collaboration with the Graham School, Mapping the World was supported in part by the Replogle Foundation. The Geographic Society of Chicago provided support for Chicago-area K–12 educators to attend the symposium, obtain the exhibit catalog, and receive Continuing Professional Development Units (CPDUs) from the State of Illinois.

Like the symposium, other events for the European Cartographers exhibit were presented in partnership with Festival of Maps Chicago, a city-wide celebration of discovery and way-finding from ancient to modern times. O. J. Sopranos, chair of the Oriental Institute Visiting Committee and volunteer docent, led two free public tours of the European Cartographers exhibit, which featured many maps from his private collection. Emily Teeter, Coordinator of Special Exhibits, also led a free public tour. Each of these events attracted many visitors who had never been to the Oriental Institute.

A concert by the Newberry Consort with the Venere Lute Quartet was another program highlight presented in conjunction with European Cartographers. Performing amid the treasures of the Yelda Khorsabad Court, the musicians used exquisitely crafted versions of Renaissance lutes to present masterworks from the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries (fig. 8).

In spring we presented *Looting the Cradle of Civilization: The Loss of History in Iraq*. This day-long symposium was offered in conjunction with the special exhibit *Catastrophe! The Looting and Destruction of Iraq's Past*. All who attended had the rare opportunity to examine the archaeological tragedy taking place in Iraq with scholars who had experienced the situation at first hand. Presenters included: Donny George, former Director of the Iraq National Museum in Baghdad; Patty Gerstenblith, Professor, College of Law, DePaul University, Chicago, and Director of DePaul's Program on Cultural Heritage Law; McGuire Gibson, Professor of Mesopotamian Archaeology, Oriental Institute; Abdul-Amir Hamdani, Director of Antiquities, Nasiriya Province,



**Figure 8.** *The Venere Lute Quartet performs masterworks from the Renaissance amid the treasures of the Yelda Khorsabad Court during a concert celebrating the special exhibit European Cartographers and the Ottoman World, 1500–1750: Maps from the Collection of O. J. Sopranos. Photo by Emily Teeter*



**Figure 9.** *Speakers at the symposium Looting the Cradle of Civilization listen intently to a question from the audience during the program's closing panel. Left to right: Abdul-Amir Hamdani, Elizabeth Stone, John Russell, Patty Gerstenblith, Donny George, and McGuire Gibson. Photo by Wendy Ennes*

Southern Iraq; John Russell, Professor of Art, Massachusetts College, and former Deputy Advisor to the Iraqi Minister of Culture and the Coalition Provisional Authority; and Elizabeth Stone, Professor of Mesopotamian Archaeology, SUNY Stonybrook University, New York (fig. 9). Thanks to support from the University of Chicago's Center for International Studies, Chicago-area K–12 teachers were able to attend this important symposium free of charge and obtain CPDUs for their participation.

Katharyn Hanson, Oriental Institute graduate student and Co-Curator of the Catastrophe! exhibit, presented a free public tour of the exhibit soon after its opening. Like the public tours for *European Cartographers*, this program attracted many who had never before visited the Oriental Institute.

Joint programming with the Elderhostel organization in Boston was another major collaboration this past year, as part of the organization's Day of Discovery events. These programs encourage seniors to become familiar with the cultural resources local universities provide for the public. Our event, which attracted 224 participants, focused on connections between ancient cultures and contemporary concerns. Geoff Emberling lectured on "Ancient Mesopotamia and Today's Iraq," which included a description of how he discusses this subject with American military units preparing for deployment. W. Raymond Johnson, Director of the Oriental Institute's Epigraphic Survey in Luxor, Egypt, described how his team is working to preserve Egypt's ancient sites amidst rapidly changing population and environmental pressures. All the participants also enjoyed docent-led tours of the galleries and a luncheon at the University's Quadrangle Club. For many of the seniors, this was a first-time visit to the Oriental Institute and several became new members.

Other collaborative adult education events also brought us new audiences. Our series of Middle Eastern cuisine and cookery programs continued this year with three new dining experiences. At "A Taste of Israel," held at Taboun Grill, manager Anat Trace introduced a multi-faceted cuisine with traditions that hark back to biblical times. At "Persian Delights," held at Noon-O-Kabab Restaurant, Mir Javad Naghavi and his sister Parvin served a traditional menu of Persian dishes from the land that is now Iran. At "The Cuisine of Afghanistan" held at Kabul House, owner and master chef Abdul Qazi invited everyone to savor a delicious array of traditional dishes from his homeland. This series has become one of our most sought-after programs and has introduced many Chicagoans to the Oriental Institute.

In addition to continuing with successful programs, innovative collaborations with new friends and long-time partners expanded our audience this past year. In September we hosted a performance by Chicago's acclaimed Muntu Dance Theatre as part of the first Hyde Park Jazz Festival. This community-wide event brought countless numbers of new visitors to our community and filled Breasted Hall to overflowing with dance enthusiasts who had never ventured to the south-side.

In November we collaborated with the Chicago History Museum on a joint field trip called "Fakes, Phonies, and Frauds." This trip featured a visit to the History Museum's *Is It Real?* exhibit, an investigation of how curators and forensic scientists examine historic artifacts to separate fact from fiction. The trip also included a visit to a new exhibit at the Oriental Institute. Inspired by the *Is It Real?* exhibit, Emily Teeter curated and installed *Fakes, Phonies, Frauds*, an examination of how Oriental Institute experts determined fakes from authentic artifacts in our Egyptian collection. Emily's discussion of the exhibit was a highlight of the field trip and this display is still intriguing visitors to the Joseph and Mary Grimshaw Egyptian Gallery.

The City of Chicago's Great Chicago Places and Spaces initiative, which celebrated the city's heritage in architecture and design, inspired Emily Teeter to create another new public program. This spring she developed and led *The Middle East on the Prairie*, a free public tour highlight-

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**Figure 10.** Visitors gather around Emily Teeter at the front steps of the Oriental Institute as she points out Middle Eastern-style ornamentation at the building's entrance. Called *The Middle East on the Prairie*, this program was co-sponsored by the city's Great Chicago Places and Spaces initiative. Photo by Carole Krucoff

ing the neo-Middle Eastern ornamentation on the Oriental Institute building's exterior and interior (fig. 10). We are currently exploring the possibility of this tour becoming part of joint programming with Frank Lloyd Wright's Robie House, the landmark building just down the block from the Oriental Institute.

Collaboration with partners on campus to serve the University of Chicago and the wider community remains an important aspects of our programming. During Student Orientation Week in September the Wednesday docents led gallery tours that introduced nearly 100 incoming freshmen to the Oriental Institute. Our Saturday docents led guided tours for the University's annual Humanities Day programming. In addition, we hosted a special reception and tour for the Civic Knowledge Project, the Division of Humanities branch that works

with local collaborators to provide educational and humanities programming for underserved communities surrounding the University of Chicago.

This past year we also joined with the Smart Museum of Art to present *Idols and Iconography*, a cross-campus event that featured a tour of the Smart Museum's new *Idol Anxiety* exhibit and an Oriental Institute Museum tour led by Kathleen Mineck that highlighted objects of worship throughout our collection. University of Chicago Presents, the major classical music presenter on campus, became our newest partner with *After Reading Shakespeare*. Held in the Yelda Khorsabad Court, this concert featured cellist Matt Haimovitz performing classical and newly composed works with literary themes.

Our free Sunday afternoon showings of documentary and feature films on the ancient and contemporary Middle East continue to draw wide-spread media and community interest. This year the film program also became the venue for a major on-campus and community collaboration when Museum Education and the Membership Office joined with the University's Center for Middle Eastern Studies, Iran House of Greater Chicago, and the city-wide Science Chicago 2007 initiative to present the United States premiere of *Iran: Seven Faces of a Civilization*. This important documentary, which uses the latest technology to showcase the 7,000-year history of Iranian art and archaeology, brought more than 350 visitors to view the film, meet the director Farzin Rezaeian, and enjoy a sumptuous buffet featuring traditional Iranian cuisine.

### Youth and Family Programs

Museum Education presented a rich array of programs for children and their families this past year. Some used off-site formats for outreach to new audiences. Others took place at the Oriental Institute to bring new visitors and old friends into the museum. Nearly all were in partnership with local, city-wide, or national initiatives.



## Outreach Programs

For the tenth straight summer, we traveled to the Lill Street Art Center on the city's northside for *Be an Ancient Egyptian Artist*, a day camp for children ages 8–12 that fills to capacity each time it is offered. Teaching artists Mary Tepper and Elizabeth Beggs took part in the two-week-long sessions of the camp; each included a day-long visit to the Oriental Institute, where Jessica Caracci led art-making sessions and arranged guided tours for the campers.

In fall we ventured out to the 57th Street Children's Book Fair, where interns Clare Brody and Anneliese Bruegel and volunteer Mouna Abraham helped show children what it is like to "dig into history." This tabletop simulation of an archaeology dig, which attracted more than 200 visitors, was one of the fair's most popular events (fig. 11).

In winter the Archaeological Institute of America invited us to take part in Family Fair, a special event offered during the institute's national conference, which was held in Chicago this year. Jessica Caracci invited visitors to have an up-close and personal visit with our reproduction mummy, intern Lauren Vander Pluym taught everyone how to make an origami pyramid, and both used the fair's computer services to introduce our Web-based Kids Corner and the online Teacher Resource Center.

Jessica also led the way in planning and presenting activities at Mayor Daley's Kids and Kites, an annual spring celebration held on the lawn of the Museum of Science and Industry. Our interns joined Jessica at the Oriental Institute booth to help children and their families create kites and kite tails decorated with ancient Egyptian designs. Every child received a colorful Oriental Institute bookmark inviting them to visit us.

## At the Museum

The City of Chicago's The Art of Play initiative this past summer inspired us to present *Games Pharaoh Played*, a free special event featuring board games played in the ancient Near East. City-wide publicity brought us families eager to see the ancient board games on view in the Museum, learn which ones King Tut (a.k.a. docent Stephen Ritzel) liked to play, and to try their hand at actually playing an ancient-style board game.

Mummies played a starring role in October during our annual Mummies Night pre-Halloween celebration in conjunction with Chicago Book Month. Staff, docents, and interns held hundreds of children and their parents



*Figure 11. Intern Clare Brody shows a fascinated child how to "dig into history." The hands-on activity took place at the Oriental Institute booth during the 57th Street Children's Book Fair. Photo by Carole Krucoff*



*Figure 12. Intern Anneliese Bruegel helps families get "up-close and personal" with a reproduction mummy during Mummies Night, our annual pre-Halloween celebration. Photo by Wendy Ennes*

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spellbound with activities that included making origami bats and pyramids, donning Egyptian-style costumes, preparing our reproduction mummy for burial, and meeting the real mummies in our Egyptian Gallery (fig. 12). Kidworks Children’s Theater returned for their second annual Mummies Night presentation. Breasted Hall was filled to capacity as the performers brought ancient Egyptian tales and stories to life in a rousing interactive version of “The Pharaoh, the Sphinx, and the Mummy!”

The City of Chicago’s Holiday Adventures initiative in December inspired Holiday Adventures in Ancient Lands, a free afternoon of games, stories, treasure hunts, and children’s films. The city-wide promotion for this event also featured shopping opportunities at the Suq’s annual holiday sale.

In February we celebrated African-American Heritage Month with our second annual presentation of Awesome Ancient African Arts. This event attracted more than 500 children and their families for a free festival of hands-on activities, treasure hunts, films, craft projects, and more. Docents wearing “Ask Me” badges staffed the Joseph and Mary Grimshaw Egyptian and Robert F. Picken Family Nubia galleries to answer countless questions from visitors, and ceramic artist Theaster Gates involved families in recreating ancient Egyptian- and Nubian-style pottery. Muntu Dance Theater, the star of our Hyde Park Jazz Festival event, returned to thrill a standing-room-only crowd in Breasted Hall as they invited everyone to join them in a spectacular celebration of African and African-American music and dance (fig. 13).



*Figure 13. Muntu Dance Theater’s spectacular celebration of African dance thrilled a full house in Breasted Hall during the Awesome Ancient African Arts festival in February. Photo by Wendy Ennes*

Many of the children and their families who took part in Awesome Ancient African Arts could join us due to support from Museum Connections: Beyond the Classroom Walls, a museum/schools outreach program funded by the Department of Mathematics and Science of the Chicago Public Schools. The Oriental Institute was invited to take part in this program in partnership with

Henry Elementary School, where the student population is largely Latino and where parents have never considered the Oriental Institute Museum as an informal learning venue. Shoemsmith Elementary School in Hyde Park, our second partner, had also never taken advantage of our learning opportunities.

We used outreach sessions at both Henry and Shoemsmith to involve students and their families in arts processes and techniques from ancient times and also to introduce ways archaeologists learn about the past through study of ancient animal bones, ceramics, and the scientific study of mummies (fig. 14). We then invited the families to come to the Oriental Institute for Awesome Ancient African Arts using bus transportation provided by Museum Connections. We were pleased to see more than 100 children and parents from these schools join us that day, with many taking advantage of the bilingual activities we now have available. Special thanks to all the people who made this program happen: Jessica Caracci, Katie Pawlicki, and Mary O’Shea from Museum Education; teaching artist Mary Tepper; and Belinda Monaghan, Oriental Institute Research Associate in Zooarchaeology. Volunteer Coordinator Catherine Dueñas translated Henry School materials into Spanish and docent Nancy Baum offered Spanish-language tours during Awesome Ancient African Arts.



*Figure 14. Students proudly display a replica pot they reconstructed during the Museum Connections outreach program at Shoemsmith Elementary School. Photo by Carole Krucoff*

### Behind the Scenes

Collaboration with on-campus and community partners has been mentioned as vital to our success throughout this report. Taking stock of all that has been accomplished this past year, I’d like to

say how much Museum Education appreciates our most important partners — the faculty, staff, and students of the Oriental Institute. We could not manage without their encouragement, involvement, and support. Special thanks go to Geoff Emberling, who guides us, cheers us on, and provides assistance at every turn. Heartfelt thanks also go to the Museum Education and Family Programs Volunteers. None of our gallery-based programs could take place without the interest, time, and talents of these men, women, and young people (fig. 15). A record of all their names appears in the Volunteer Program section of this *Annual Report*.

The commitment, creativity, and vision of the Museum Education staff are what make everything happen. Wendy Ennes, Teacher Services and e-Learning Coordinator, is key



*Figure 15. Left to right: Docents Jennifer Douglas, John DeWerd, Stephen Ritzel (a.k.a. King Tut), and Rebecca Binkley challenge young visitors to a game of mancala with an animated mummy during the program Games Pharaoh Played. These volunteers were among the many who contributed their time and talents to public programs this past year. Photo by Carole Krucoff*

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to all of our major grant-funded initiatives for teachers and students. Her dedication and drive, along with her grant-writing skills, commitment to excellence, and her expertise in online education make her an invaluable asset to Museum Education and to the Oriental Institute as a whole. Along with the accomplishments listed in this report, Wendy has made many other significant contributions to the Institute this past year. As part of Ancient Mesopotamia: This History, Our History, an online education project funded by the IMLS that Wendy has managed over the past several years, she has developed a Web-based teacher training course that provides

educators nationwide with graduate credit from the University of Chicago. Her work on the Ancient Mesopotamia project was recognized nationally in an article published by IMLS this past year, and she was invited to speak about the project at this year's Museum Computer Network Conference as an IMLS National Leadership Grant Award recipient. Always seeking innovative ways to bring the Institute's work in online education to the forefront nationally and worldwide, Wendy also gave a presentation on the Ancient Mesopotamia project in Second Life, an online, three-dimensional virtual world that involves millions of participants from around the globe. Appearing as an avatar of herself, she presented "Ancient Mesopotamia: Engaging Online Resources from the Oriental Institute" at Second Life's Virtual Worlds: Libraries, Education and Museums conference (fig. 16).



**Figure 16.** Wendy Ennes' avatar tells educators world-wide about the Oriental Institute's Web-based resources during her 2008 presentation in Second Life, the online virtual world populated by millions of participants from around the globe

The many contributions of Jessica Caracci, Museum Education Programs Assistant, are visible

throughout this report. Along with her leadership with the Kipper Family Archaeology Discovery Center and Museum Connections Discovery Center and Museum Connections programs, she has been central to the creation and implementation of all our public programs for youth and families this past year. Jessica also supervises the department's interns, ensuring them a meaningful experience that combines valuable assistance to the Oriental Institute with an introduction to the role museum education can play at a major university museum (fig. 17). Thanks to Jessica's guidance, interns Anneliese Bruegel, Anna Cohen, Lauren Vander Pluym, Katie Pawlicki, and Julie Shackelford aided us in countless ways on the Kipper Center project. They also assisted



**Figure 17.** Left to right: Anna Cohen, Jessica Caracci, Julie Shackelford, and Lauren Vander Pluym get ready to fly a kite after helping countless children make their own at Mayor Daley's Kids and Kites program. Anna, Julie, and Lauren belonged to the corps of interns Jessica supervised as part of her many and varied responsibilities in the Museum Education Office this past year

with many of our public programs, joined by Clare Brody, our high-school intern from the University of Chicago's Laboratory School. In addition, Jessica supervised Suzanne Brown, summer intern from Chicago State University, who assisted with office management and public programs, and Brennan Jorgenson from Whitman College in Washington state, whose major project focused on evaluation of visitors' experiences in the special exhibit Daily Life Ornamented. Brennan's work laid the foundation for an in-depth visitor experience study in the European Cartographers exhibit by MAPSS intern Kate Flinger.

Jessica also administers the department's entire adult education program and handles registrations, confirmations, and record keeping for all gallery tours and public programs. She keeps detailed statistics on public programs participation and thanks to her efforts we are able provide a breakdown of our total 17,956 participants as follows:

Adult education: 1,063  
Films: 1,142  
Family activities; programs: 1,904  
Family activities: self-guided services: 12,955  
Programs for the University of Chicago: 248  
Programs for teachers: 214

Jessica serves as public relations officer, graphic designer, and media specialist for both the Education and Volunteer Programs. The in-print and online publicity materials she produces have been key to this year's increase in program participation and increased awareness of the Museum. For example, publicity she generated for the Mummies Night and Games Pharaoh Played programs appeared in more than 300,000 city-sponsored brochures. Along with all her other responsibilities, Jessica joined with Volunteer Coordinator Terry Friedman to serve as "command central" in a major Education Office clean-up that has made our work environment more comfortable and welcoming. Jessica handles all the challenges and demands of her multi-faceted position with true professionalism, poise, and grace, making it a pleasure for volunteers and staff to have her with us as our colleague.

Two important people require special mention here. In the Volunteer Program section of this *Annual Report* you will read about the achievements of the Oriental Institute Volunteer Program, which is supervised by Volunteer Coordinators Catherine Dueñas and Terry Friedman. Read on to see how these dedicated and talented women are continually inspired by the creativity and commitment of their extraordinary corps of volunteers, whose accomplishments at the Institute and for the community are described in the following pages.

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## VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

Catherine Dueñas and Terry Friedman

### Introduction

With the completion of its forty-first year of service to the Oriental Institute, the Volunteer Program has taken a step back to reflect upon its achievements and challenges over the past four decades. This time of contemplation has led the program to re-examine priorities in the face of an ever-changing audience. Since the program's beginning in 1966, it has been steadfast in its dedication to bringing the history, art, and archaeology of the ancient Near East to a broad constituency of visitors. This past year was no exception as the Volunteer Program continued to be true to its mission while constantly striving to keep its volunteers engaged and involved through substantive and innovative programming.

In order to ensure ongoing progress and efficiency in the years to come, the program took on the daunting task of streamlining and reorganizing its records and physical office space. With the assistance of volunteer Haley Lodge and intern Lauren Vander Pluym, the department was able to track tour statistics and create charts and graphs to assess the distribution of visitors as they are grouped by age, geographic location, and tour size. This information will undoubtedly allow volunteers to better serve different demographic groups — a major program initiative this past year. Outreach to diverse community members continued to improve with the addition of even more translated materials developed to reach the Hispanic communities.

The year 2008 has been a particularly exciting one for the Volunteer Program with the development and first trial tours of the Kipper Family Archaeology Discovery Center, a simulated archaeological tel designed for middle-school students and family visitors. Docents have taken an active role in shaping the tel experience with practical suggestions and insightful observations on how to make this unique educational opportunity come alive.

As you read through this report, you will see in great detail the numerous accomplishments that continue to make this program unique and exciting.

### Docent Captain System

The Docent Captain System is a vital link between the administrative staff and Museum docents. Captains assume the responsibility for overseeing the staffing of Museum tours and supervising docents. They also mentor new docents by giving them the guidance and support needed to become successful Museum guides. Many captains communicate with their groups through weekly tour reminders sent out through e-mail. Our thanks and appreciation to these hard-working individuals whose vigilance helps the docent system run efficiently and without interruption. Docent Captains: Myllicent Buchanan, Gabriele DaSilva, Joe Diamond, Teresa Hintzke, Dennis Kelley, Roy Miller, Donald Payne, Patrick Regnery, Stephen Ritzel, Lucie Sandel, Deloris Sanders, Pramerudee Townsend, Lauren Vander Pluym, Carole Yoshida, and the late Pierangelo Taschini.



*Docent Captain Deloris Sanders points out an interesting artifact to Mari Terman during a Wednesday summer study session in the galleries. Photo by Terry Friedman*

## Tour Program

Docent-led tours have always brought the Museum galleries to life in ways that excite and engage visitors of all ages. This past year has proven to be no exception. With the addition of the Kipper Family Archaeology Discovery Center, a simulated archaeological tel, docents have been challenged to develop new and innovative ways to show how artifacts go from the “ground to gallery.”

Through the generosity of Saturday docent Patrick Regnery, Museum docents now have handsome maroon vests to wear in the galleries to help identify themselves to the public as Museum guides. The vests add an element of distinction as well as a welcoming touch to Museum visitors who might enjoy an informal tour of the galleries with a docent.

For this year’s *Annual Report*, the Volunteer Office has compiled tour statistics from the 2007–2008 fiscal year. Volunteer Haley Lodge and intern Lauren Vander Pluym tracked tours to give the Volunteer Office a detailed description of who constitutes our tour audience, how to interpret this raw data, and thus adjust to changing trends in visitor’s demographics. The charts below show the number of visitors per month from July 2007 to July 2008, what percentage of these tours were docent-led and self-guided, the number of visitors per guided and self-guided tours, the age range of visitors, the geographic location of visitors, and the number of religious groups.

This year, our total number of projected scheduled visitors came to 9,050. Figure 1 shows that our busiest months for tours are September and October, undoubtedly because this is when school curriculums cover the history of the ancient Near East. Teachers are eager to reinforce their teaching units with the experience of viewing our collection first-hand. In contrast, the summer months of June–August see a drop in tours due to summer vacation for most schools.

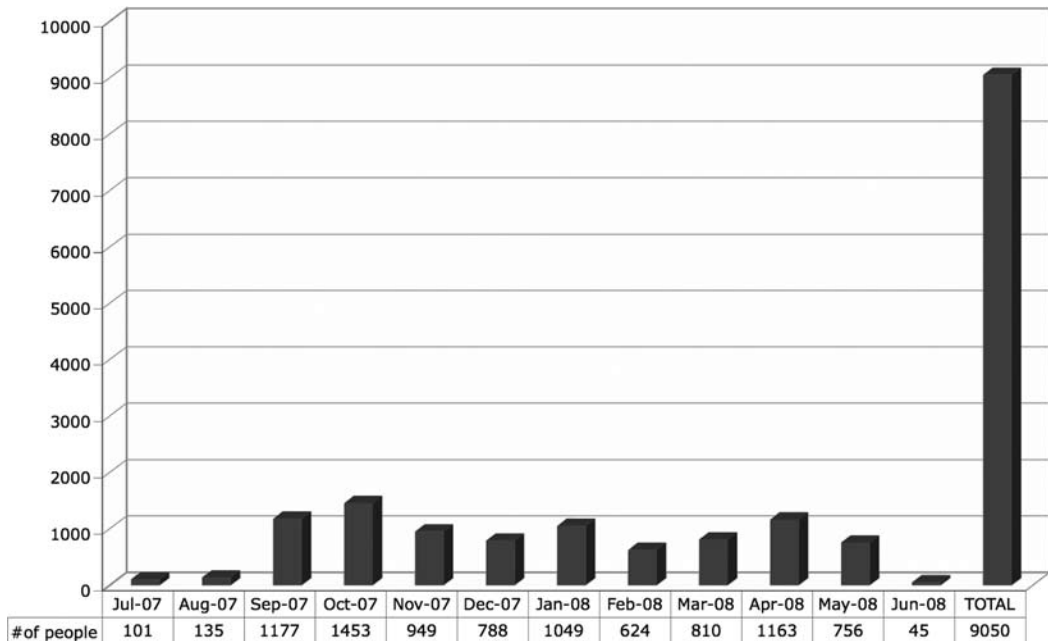


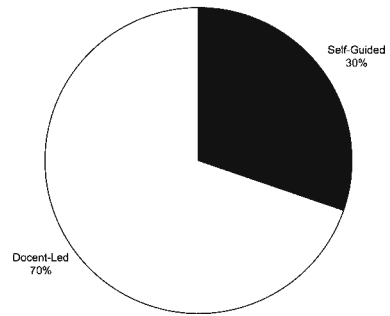
Figure 1. Number of visitors per month

**VOLUNTEER PROGRAM**

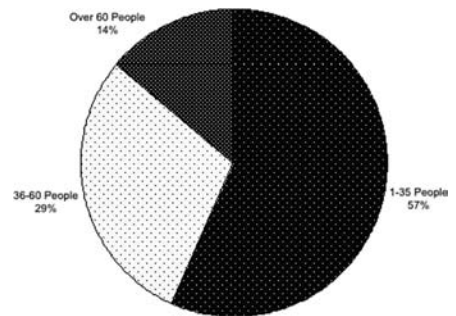
Tour analysis reveals that of our 9,050 group visitors, 70 percent were led by docents (fig. 2). Overwhelmingly, our average tour group is comprised of 1–35 visitors for both docent-led and self-guided tours (figs. 3–4). The next category of 36–60 people represents a significant portion of the graph, while the smallest proportion of group size is sixty people or greater. The graph clearly confirms that Museum docents are accommodating a wide range of tour sizes.

In order to adapt museum tours for diverse groups, the Volunteer Office must know where their audience is coming from. Statistics show that the Museum nearly equally accommodates groups from suburbs or other places in Illinois (44%) and groups from within the city of Chicago (37%) (fig. 5). We were pleased to see that a significant number of visitors on tours (19%) are from out of state. It is gratifying to see that the Oriental Institute Museum continues to serve its base in Chicago and the metropolitan area, while simultaneously reaching beyond the boundaries of Illinois to other states.

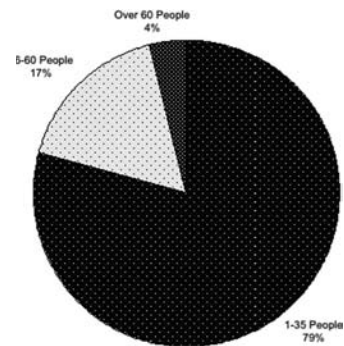
Analyzing the age range of visitors has also helped the Volunteer Program to better adapt museum tours for age appropriateness. Without a doubt, our largest group of visitors comes from the Elementary (K–8) age range (fig. 6). Within this group, sixth grade seems to be the largest demographic. State standards mandate that sixth graders study ancient history; therefore, we accommodate many sixth grade groups that seek to reinforce their knowledge of the ancient world by visiting the museum. In addition, the Volunteer Program serves school groups of various ages, including high school and college. In 2007–2008, the docents also saw a large number of adult groups, including seniors.



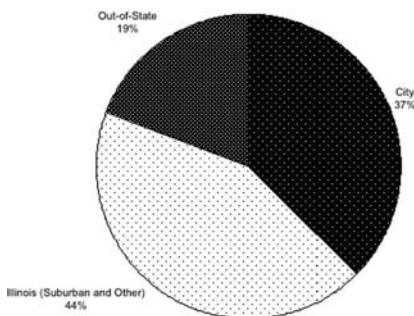
*Figure 2. Tour type*



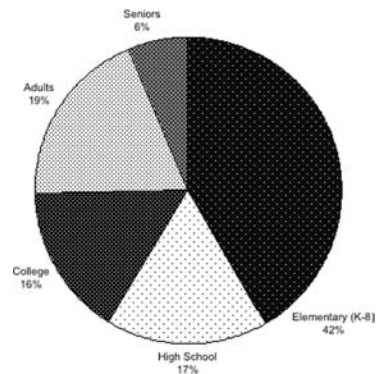
*Figure 3. Number of visitors per guided tour group*



*Figure 4. Number of visitors per self-guided tour group*



*Figure 5. Geographic location of visitors*



*Figure 6. Age range of visitors*

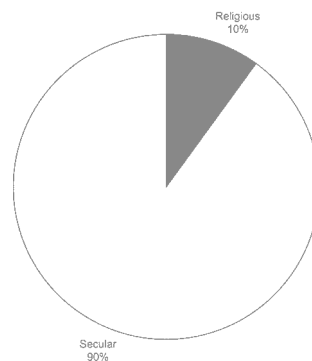


The volunteer program also accommodates groups who wish to receive a religion-oriented tour. Approximately 10 percent of visitors come from religious groups seeking tours that cater to religious history and the Bible. In response, docents must be prepared to interpret the museum galleries in a number of ways, both from a secular as well as a biblical archaeology perspective.

Undoubtedly, these statistics will assist the Volunteer Program in planning for a diverse range of future audiences.

## Volunteer Days

As part of an ongoing educational opportunity for all Oriental Institute docents and volunteers, the Volunteer Program continues to offer monthly educational seminars, Volunteer Days, that blend current research and discoveries with broader historical and cultural overviews of the ancient Near East. These informative lectures and gallery workshops have been at the heart of the program's success and longevity. They have helped to sustain a high level of interest and participation among the volunteers and continue to foster an atmosphere conducive to learning and exploring new interpretations. As part of Volunteer Day programming this past year, two full-day seminars on Persia were integrated into the schedule. Abbas Alizadeh and Don Whitcomb presented these seminars. With plans underway to revise and update the Persian training materials, the lectures were a critical component in the revision process. June Volunteer Day was a special program in honor of retired Oriental Institute photographer Jean Grant. Faculty, staff, and volunteers gathered to hear John Larson's illustrated lecture showing a range of Jean's photography. John's tribute to Jean beautifully illustrated her technical skills as well as her keen sense of time and place.



**Figure 7. Religious groups**



*In October, Research Associate Abbas Alizadeh discussed the artifacts in the Persian gallery with volunteers during a full-day seminar on ancient Persia.*

*Photo by Wendy Ennes*



*In November, Oriental Institute volunteer and Visiting Committee Chair Jim Sopranos gave a fascinating Volunteer Day presentation on the exhibit *European Cartographers and the Ottoman World, 1500–1750: Maps from the Collection of O. J. Sopranos.**

*Photo by Wendy Ennes*

## VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

Our thanks and appreciation to the all individuals who added so much to the programs we offered this year: Abbas Alizadeh, Scott Branting, Geoff Emberling, Katharyn Hanson, W. Ray Johnson, John Larson, Hratch Papazian, Jim Sopranos, and Don Whitcomb.

Docents also continue to engage themselves in informal study sessions focused on special interest topics. Docents often independently research a special tour topic of interest and convey their knowledge to others in the study group. These special study sessions give docents a chance to focus on specific aspects of the Museum galleries and share their own expertise with peers. In addition, these sessions encourage docents to adopt unique approaches in their own tour techniques.

### Field Trip

This year Oriental Institute staff and volunteers enjoyed a joint outing to the Field Museum to see The Ancient Americas exhibit. Our thanks to Bob Cantu and the volunteers at The Field Museum for making our trip such a memorable experience. Prior to entering the exhibit, Field Museum volunteer Jim Piekarczyk gave an outstanding overview of the collection, highlighting the numerous and diverse indigenous cultures that flourished in the Western Hemisphere from North to South America as well as Central America and the Caribbean. The exhibit itself traced more than 13,000 years of human development and creativity, bringing to life these civilizations for museum visitors of all ages.

### Volunteer Recognition

December Volunteer Day and the Volunteer Recognition Ceremony have become an annual tradition for the program. This festive holiday gathering incorporates a Volunteer Day lecture, a recognition ceremony for years of service, and culminates at the Quadrangle Club with a lovely holiday luncheon. This year's program took place on Monday, December 3. Our thanks and appreciation to this year's guest speaker Museum Director Geoff Emberling for an informative double presen-



*The 2007 Recognition Award recipients: Dorothy Scheff, Lillian Schwartz, Elizabeth Spiegel, and Joan Friedman pose in Breasted Hall with Cathy Dueñas and Carole Krucoff (at left), and Terry Friedman (right). Photo by Wendy Ennes*

tation for the December Volunteer Day Program. Part one of his presentation was a “State of the Museum” report to the volunteers. His message highlighted the many accomplishments in the museum this past year, while also focusing attention on the future goals and projects underway for 2008. The second part of his program was a PowerPoint presentation of his 2007 excavation season in the Sudan. He shared with us his fascinating experiences and discoveries while working on salvage excavations at the Fourth Cataract. We look forward to hearing future updates about his groundbreaking work in this region.

Immediately following Geoff’s presentation, the program continued with the introduction of new volunteers and the Recognition Awards Ceremony. We were pleased to introduce ten new members to the Volunteer Corps. Welcome aboard to Susan Bazargan, Roberta Buchanan, Jennifer Douglass, David Giba, Larry Lissak, Haley Lodge, Timothy King, Hilda Schlatter, and Siwei Wang.

This year fifteen people were recognized for their distinguished service and loyal commitment to the Oriental Institute and to the Museum. Their combined years of service represents **340 YEARS IN TOTAL!** We admire and respect all their contributions, past, present, and future. Congratulations to the 2007 Recognition Award Recipients:

**5 Years**

Melissa Ratkovich

**15 Years**

Joan Friedman  
Anne Schumacher

**20 Years**

Betsy Kremers  
Masako Matsumoto  
Lillian Schwartz

**25 Years**

Nina Longley

**30 Years**

Diana Grodzins  
Rita Picken  
Kitty Picken  
Mardi Trosman

**35 Years**

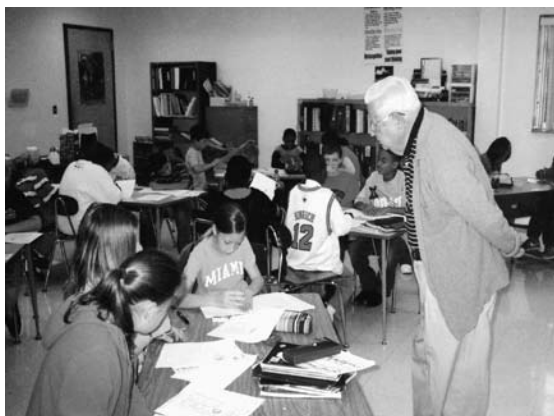
Janet Russell  
Elizabeth Spiegel

This year we honored two volunteers posthumously: Larry Scheff for twenty years and Lilian Cropsey for thirty years. Although they are no longer with us, their spirit of dedication lives on as an inspiration. The Oriental Institute was an integral part of their lives and their years of service truly exemplify a tradition of long-standing commitment and involvement. We are grateful for their many contributions and how their work enriched all our lives.

## Outreach on the Move

The Outreach Program continued to delight audiences of all ages. Outreach has grown in popularity over the past twelve years as it continues to generate a loyal following of schools, as well as attracting new audiences who enjoy this interactive educational experience. Throughout metropolitan Chicago, Oriental Institute volunteers have been on the move taking the “show on the road.” We were pleased to make our annual visit to James Hart Millennium School in Homewood and to Springbrook Elementary School in Naperville, Illinois. Now in its twelfth year, students, educators, parents, and adults have continued to give the program rave reviews. This year, 350 participants enjoyed the advantage of an outreach visit.

## VOLUNTEER PROGRAM



*Robert McGinness, left, observes students doing an activity while Roy Miller, right, explains an Egyptian ushebti during our annual outreach visit to James Hart Millennium School in Homewood, Illinois.  
Photos by Larry Lissak*

## Summer Cleanup and Reorganization

This past year we began an extensive cleanup and reorganization of the Education and Volunteer Offices. With the help of professional organizational and staging consultant Amy Karatz and our faithful interns, we began the initial steps to transform our office space into a well-organized, spacious environment. It was a time-consuming task, but the organization of the Volunteer Office has strengthened the efficiency and productivity of the program, as well as maintaining a more professional atmosphere.

## Updating Training Materials

Our thanks to volunteer Alex Elwyn for carefully scanning and reassembling all the Persian Training materials onto a computer file so that we could begin revising this section of the Volunteer Training Manual. We look forward to having these materials ready for distribution sometime this fall.

## In Memoriam

The Volunteer Program lost three loyal friends and supporters of the Oriental Institute this past year: Dorothy Blindt, Patty Dunkel, and Pierangelo Taschini. These individuals exemplified the spirit and essence of a volunteer. Each devoted decades of time sharing their unique talents and skills to help further the goals and mission of the Oriental Institute. We will greatly miss these remarkable people and we are grateful that they chose to spend a portion of their lives with us.



*December's Volunteer Day featured a Holiday Book Sale to help raise funds for the Docent Library to purchase new acquisitions. Head Librarian Margaret Foorman (seated) offers some suggestions to Carlotta Maher (center) and Christel Betz. Photo by Wendy Ennes*

## Docent Library

Throughout the years, the Docent Library has continued to provide the volunteers with an outstanding educational resource. Under the stewardship of Head Librarian Margaret Foorman the collection has flourished and grown. She carefully culls the existing collection to make room for new additions, breathing new life and energy into this well-respected private library. Her quarterly updates in the *Volunteer Voice* highlight new additions to the library and offer suggested readings to enhance members' knowledge and understanding of the ancient Near East. Through numerous donations from faculty, staff, and volunteers, along with many new purchases, the Docent Library's collection continues to thrive both as an educational resource and a valuable research archive. Our thanks also to Sandra Jacobsohn for assisting Margaret with the library's ongoing maintenance.

## Docent Advisory Committee

The Docent Advisory Committee was formed three years ago to give the volunteers a greater voice in the decision-making process of the Volunteer Program and Education Office. This Committee continues to serve as an open forum where docents and the volunteers can express their concerns and offer productive solutions for problems. Under the leadership of its executive members, Joe Diamond, Dennis Kelley, and Mary Shea, many of the concerns expressed in the initial July 2005 report have been successfully resolved over the past year. The committee's recommendations have been a catalyst for improvement and change.

We were very pleased to have the active involvement of Geoff Emberling, Oriental Institute Museum Director. His pragmatic and insightful observations helped direct the committee toward creative and innovative solutions to improve the Volunteer Program's structure. Geoff submitted the committee's final progress report, Docent Planning Committee Report, to Oriental Institute Director Gil Stein in July 2007. In it, he summarized the committee's significant progress, addressing the initial issues and concerns expressed by the docents in the July 2005 report. He reviewed each area of concern and outlined how the issues had been resolved.



*Cathy Dueñas and Mary O'Shea pose for the camera before a dress-up activity*



*Kathleen Mineck (standing) and Joan Curry (seated) enjoy a light-hearted moment during a Wednesday summer study session in the galleries. Photo by Terry Friedman*

## Interns

We were very fortunate this past fiscal year to have Jamie Hanson, Elizabeth Kisor, Haley Lodge, Alyssa Price, and Lauren Vander Pluym as interns in the Volunteer and Education Offices. From administrative tasks to assisting on special projects, all who worked with them appreciated their energetic spirit and excellent work. Their numerous contributions have helped to enhance and support many vital areas of the Volunteer Program's ongoing operation.

## VOLUNTEER PROGRAM



*Oriental Institute Director Gil Stein thanked the volunteers personally for their devoted work this past year during the annual Holiday Luncheon at the Quadrangle Club. Photo by Wendy Ennes*

We would also like to thank our colleagues in Museum Education for their steadfast support and sage advice throughout this past year: Jessica Caracci, Museum Education Programs Assistant; Carole Krucoff, Head of Public and Museum Education; and Wendy Ennes, Teachers Services and e-Learning Coordinator. In an environment bustling with activity and interruptions, their calm demeanor and sense of humor foster a congenial and productive atmosphere.

A special note of thanks to Jessica Caracci, whose outstanding organization and communication skills are at the very core of the tour program's success. Her patience and attention to detail are appreciated by everyone with whom she works.

## Reflections

The year 2007–2008 represented a historic benchmark for the Volunteer Program as it celebrated its forty-first anniversary. At this pivotal point in our history, we thank all volunteers past and present for their investment of time and energy; the volunteer corps continues to have a long-lasting impact on Museum visitors, and they are at the very heart and soul of the program's longevity. They form a unique community of dedicated individuals whose passion for learning and pride in the Institute's work and the Museum's collection are the cornerstones of the program's success. The volunteers are truly our good-will ambassadors.

What began in January 1966 with an eight-week training class has continued to develop into a dynamic and respected program over the past four decades. With the support and vision of four energetic and remarkable women, its founder, Carolyn Livingood, as well as the subsequent Docent Coordinators Carlotta Maher, Peggy Grant, and Janet Helman, we have all inherited a tradition of excellence. Their legacy of hard work and determination continue to be a source of inspiration and wisdom.

We are very proud of all the volunteers and how they have embraced each new challenge with their creative spirit, loyal commitment, and collective team efforts. Each person has helped to enrich the Institute's stature and prominence worldwide. They are truly an exceptional group of individuals. Thank you for keeping history alive and well for future generations to understand and to appreciate. The successes of 2007–2008 are due to your enthusiasm and passion.

### Volunteers: Class of 2007–2008

Judy Bell-Qualls  
Jean Fincher  
Larry Lissak  
Harold Sanders  
Siwei Wang

Ray Broms  
Merle Foracker  
Haley Lodge  
Hilda Schlatter

Erika Coleman  
David Giba  
Paul Mallory  
Margaret Shortle  
Monica Wood

### Advisers to the Volunteer Program

Peggy Grant

Janet Helman

Carlotta Maher

**Docent Advisory Committee (Executive Board)**

Joe Diamond	Dennis Kelley	Mary Shea
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**Volunteers Emeritus**

Debbie Aliber	Muriel Brauer	Charlotte Collier
Erl Dordal	Mary D'Ouille	Patty Dunkel†
Bettie Dwinell	Carol Green	Mary Grimshaw
Cissy Haas	Alice James	MaryJo Khuri
Betsy Kremers	Nina Longley	Jo Lucas
Masako Matsumoto	Dorothy Mozinski	Muriel Nerad
Rita Picken	Janet Russell	Elizabeth Spiegel

**Museum Docents**

John Aldrin	Douglas Baldwin	Nancy Baum
Susan Bazargan	Christel Betz	Rebecca Binkley
Dorothy Blindt†	Maureen Brierton	Myllicent Buchanan
Roberta Buchanan	Andrew Buncis	Kristin Buskirk
Gabriella Cohen	Joan Curry	Gabriele Da Silva
John DeWerd	Joe Diamond	Jennifer Douglass
Djanie Edwards	Mary Finn	Margaret Foorman
Barbara Freidell	Joan Friedman	Dario Giacomoni
C. Azure Gillman	Anita Greenberg	Debby Halpern
Ira Hardman	Janet Helman	Lee Herbst
Teresa Hintzke	Morton Jaffee	Dennis Kelley
Lo Luong Lo	Margaret Manteufel	Pat McLaughlin
Sherry McGuire	Robert McGuinness	Roy Miller
Kathy Mineck	Alexander Muir	Mary O'Shea
Nancy Patterson	Donald Payne	Kitty Picken
Rita Picken	Semra Prescott	Claire Pritchard
Melissa Ratkovich	Patrick Regnery	Stephen Ritzel
Gerladine Rowden	Lucie Sandel	Deloris Sanders
Joy Schochet	Anne Schumacher	Mary Shea
Daila Shefner	Mae Simon	Toni Smith
Bernadette Strnad	Pierangelo Taschini†	Mari Terman
Karen Terras	Pramerudee Townsend	Arveal Turner
Ronald Wideman	Inge Winer	Carole Yoshida

**Affiliated Volunteers****(not active, but still part of the Oriental Institute community)**

Sylvia Aldrin	Bernadine Basile	Dave Covill
Marda Gross	Ruth Goldman	Henriette Klawans
Alice Mulberry	Denise Paul	David Ray

**Volunteer Interns**

Elizabeth Kizior (Summer 2007)	Jamie Hanson
Haley Lodge	Alyssa Price (Summer 2007)

## VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

**Work Study Intern**  
Lauren Vander Plyum

**Archives Volunteers for 2007/2008**

Hazel Cramer	Margaret (Peggy) Horton Grant	Patricia Hume
Sandra Jacobsohn	Roberta Kovitz	Lillian Schwartz
Robert Wagner		Carole Yoshida

**Archives Student Volunteers/Interns for 2007/2008**

Eliza Chiasson	Jessica Henderson	Shir Lerman
Bryan Moles	Katie Pawlicki	Lara Weiss
	Elizabeth Wolfson	

**Museum Registration**

Joan Barghusen	Gretel Braidwood	Joe Diamond
Janet Helman	Barbara Levin	Daila Shefner
Toni Smith	Jim Sopranos	Ray Tindel
	Lara Weiss (Summer intern)	

**Student Volunteer**

Alison Hade

**Workstudy**

Courtney Jacobson

**Tall i-Geser**

Janet Helman

**Suq**

Judy Bell-Qualls	Roy Broms	Erica Coleman
Peggy Grant		Norma van der Meulen

**Persepolis Tablets**

Irene Glasner		Louise Golland
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**CAMEL Lab**

Marc Block	James Boves	Gabriella Cohen
Alexander Elwyn	Larry Lissak	Harold Sanders

**Hacinebi Excavations**

Irene Glasner

**Demotic Dictionary**

Joe Diamond	Ruth Goldman	Larry Lissak
	Janelle Pisarik	

**Diyala Project**

George Sundell		Karen Terras
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**Iranian Prehistoric Project**

Janet Helman

Susan Bazargan

**Photography Lab**

Margaret Shortle

Carole Yoshida

**Passport to the Middle East: Desserts in the Desert*****Gala Committee Volunteers***

Kathleen Beavis

Gretel Braidwood

Andrea Dudek

Margaret Foorman

Debby Halpern

Janet Helman

Rita Picken

Mary Shea

O. J. Sopranos

Mari Terman

***Event Volunteers***

Erin Baker

Djanie Edwards

Karen Terras

Siwei Wang

**Museum Education and Family Programs Volunteers**

Mouna Abraham

Rozenn Bailleul-LeSeur

Erin Baker

Nancy Baum

Elizabeth Beggs

Christel Betz

Rebecca Binkley

Myllicent Buchanan

Roberta Buchanan

Andrew Buncis

Gabriele Da Silva

John DeWerd

Joe Diamond

Jennifer Douglass

Stephen Esposito

Margaret Foorman

Dario Giacomoni

Louise Golland

Erin Guinn-Villareal

Debby Halpern

Katharyn Hanson

Ira Hardman

Teresa Hintzke

Mark Hirsch

Dennis Kelley

Larry Lissak

Lo Luong Lo

Robert McGuinness

Sherry McGuire

Roy Miller

Kathy Mineck

Alex Muir

Mary O'Shea

Nancy Patterson

Donald Payne

Rita Picken

Semra Prescott

Claire Pritchard

Melissa Ratkovich

Patrick Regnery

Stephen Ritzel

Lucie Sandel

Deloris Sanders

Joy Schochet

Anne Schumacher

Mary Shea

Mae Simon

Toni Smith

Bernadette Strnad

Pierangelo Taschini†

Mari Terman

Siwei Wang

Ron Wideman

Inge Winer

Carole Yoshida

**Junior Volunteers**

Clare Brody

Cameron Kelley

**Outreach Docents and Volunteers**

Rebecca Binkley

Myllicent Buchanan

Andrew Buncis

Janet Calkins

Joe Diamond

Bettie Dwinell

Bill and Terry Gillespie

Ira Hardman

Larry Lissak

Robert McGuinness

Roy Miller

Kathy Mineck

Mary O'Shea

Stephen Ritzel

Joy Schochet

Anne Schumacher

Carole Yoshida

Agnes Zellner



# *MEMBERSHIP AND DEVELOPMENT*





# MEMBERSHIP AND DEVELOPMENT

## SPECIAL EVENTS

### Kaye Oberhausen

In November 2007 I had the pleasure of joining the Oriental Institute as Special Events Coordinator working with Monica Witczak and Sarah Sapperstein in the Development/Membership Office. I have already had a busy eight months here at the Oriental Institute and am looking forward to the year ahead as I plan our ninetieth Jubilee Gala (mark your calendars for May 6, 2009) and countless other academic and membership/development events.

### Winter 2007–2008

In December 2007 we honored Professor Gregory Areshian for his generous donation to the Oriental Institute of books relating to the archaeology and ancient languages of the Caucasus. The newly dedicated Gregory Areshian Collection can be found in the Research Archives and will continue to educate and inform students, faculty, and researchers for years to come. Thanks to Gil Stein, Foy Scalf, and Adam Smith for speaking so eloquently at the dedication ceremony, and, of course, special thanks to Professor Areshian for his generous donation.

In January we partnered with the Deutsches Archäologisches Institut and the German Consul General to bring Dr. Felix Pirson, First Director of the Deutsches Archäologisches Institut, Istanbul Section, to the Oriental Institute. His lecture entitled “The Hellenistic Capital Pergamon and its Harbour City Elaia” brought a new and interested crowd to Breasted Hall. Special thanks to the German Consul General for making this event a success.

We also celebrated Professors Robert Biggs and Gene Gragg in January to mark the publication of their festschriften. Over seventy-five guests attended to toast both Bob and Gene on this accomplishment in their academic careers. Special thanks to both Martha Roth and Cynthia Miller for giving toasts to the guests of honor, and congratulations to Professors Biggs and Gragg on this momentous occasion.

In March I had the opportunity to help plan the fourth annual Post-Doctoral Seminar with Mariana Perlinac, Assistant to the Director, and Jeffrey Szuchman, Post-Doctoral Scholar. Jeff brought an interesting and varied group of scholars from around the globe to the Oriental Institute for this two-day conference to discuss “Nomads, Tribes, and the State in the Ancient Near East.” The scholars and attendees enjoyed both lectures and discussion sessions that enabled the participants to delve deeper into the research of this conference. Special thanks to Mariana for her hard work and dedication when arranging travel and accommodations for all the scholars. I also cannot thank Jeff Szuchman enough for his patience and guidance when planning this conference. Jeff has been wonderful to work with and I wish him nothing but the best in his future endeavors!

### Spring 2008

On Thursday, April 10, the Oriental Institute Museum opened its newest special exhibit, *Catastrophe! The Looting and Destruction of Iraq’s Past*, co-curated by Professor McGuire Gibson and graduate student Katharyn Hanson. The opening of the exhibit coincided with the five-year anniversary of the looting of the Iraq National Museum in Baghdad and was a poignant way to remember the destruction that has taken place — and is currently taking place — in Iraq. The

## SPECIAL EVENTS



*Guests at the reception held in the Oriental Institute Research Archives for the opening of the special exhibit **Catastrophe! The Looting and Destruction of Iraq's Past**. Photo by Anna Ressman*

evening began with a members' reception in the Research Archives, where a record crowd came out for appetizers and wine before the lecture. Thanks again to Foy Scalf, Head of the Research Archives, for allowing us to host our members in this beautiful space. McGuire Gibson, Professor of Mesopotamian Archaeology, continued the evening's events with a lecture in Breasted Hall entitled "The Destruction of Iraq's Cultural Heritage: The View from Five Years On," with over 170 in attendance. Professor Gibson outlined the destruction of the Iraq Museum on those fateful days in 2003 and gave an update on the current condition and future of the Museum. He also spoke about the ongoing destruction of the archaeological sites located throughout the country and how the looting is causing significant damage to the contextual understanding of the past. Professor Gibson finished the lecture by inviting people to visit the special exhibit and outlining ways they can get involved to help make a difference in this matter. The audience then had a chance to have the first viewing of the exhibit before the night's events ended with a vigil in the Yelda Khorsabad Court. The moment of silence to pay respect to the destruction that has occurred in Iraq, organized in conjunction with SAFE/Saving Antiquities for Everyone, was a fitting way to end the evening. Donny George, former Director of the Iraq Museum, gave a very emotional account of the days following the looting and thanked everyone for their ongoing support. Thanks to Gil Stein, Geoff Emberling, McGuire Gibson, Katharyn Hanson, Emily Teeter, Erik Lindahl, Tom James, Sarah Sapperstein, Monica Witczak, Steve Camp, Donny George, Foy Scalf, Mariana Perlinac, and Cindy Ho and all the members of SAFE/Saving Antiquities for Everyone.

In late April we invited our Breasted Society Members and their guests to be the first to hear about the results of the 2007 Nubian Expedition and the latest discoveries in ancient Kush. Geoff Emberling, Museum Director and Co-Director of the Nubian Expedition, spoke about the work he and his team did earlier that winter near the Fourth Cataract of the Nile. They went to this region

of Sudan to rescue sites before the area is flooded due to the construction of a dam. The lecture focused on a large cemetery containing over 100 burials of the early Kingdom of Kush (2000–1500 B.C.). Many thanks to Geoff for his engaging lecture, and thanks to the many members of the Nubian Expedition team for attending this event and enhancing the conversation at the reception with our Breasted Society members.

During the first three days of May the Oriental Institute was a bustle of activity as we welcomed the conference on Eurasian Archaeology into Breasted Hall. The Department of Anthropology brought in many speakers to talk about Regimes and Revolutions: Power, Violence, and Labor in Eurasia Between the Ancient and the Modern. Many thanks to Adam Smith and Charles Hartley of the Department of Anthropology for working so easily with the Oriental Institute to make this event a success. Also, thanks to Mariana Perlinac, who always provides a wonderful helping hand.

May also brought an event of mixed emotions when we wished Peter Dorman farewell from the Oriental Institute. Peter has accepted the role of President of the American University in Beirut, Lebanon. Peter has been an Associate Professor of Egyptology for twenty years and has been the head of the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations since 2002. He is a wonderful colleague and friend and will be sadly missed around the halls of the Institute, but we wish him nothing but the best in his exciting future endeavors. Many thanks to NELC, the Humanities Department, and the Oriental Institute for making this a wonderful celebration for Peter. Also thanks to Paula Manzuk for all her help in making this event a success, along with all of the speakers who so beautifully wished Peter a fond farewell.

In June a brand new event was held on our off-gala year, entitled Passport to the Middle East: Desserts in the Desert. This wine-and-dessert tasting was held in the Oriental Institute Museum galleries and Research Archives and encouraged attendees to mingle with scholars, staff, and other Institute employees. Over 160 people attended the event and \$6,000 was raised that will go to directly support the mission of the Institute. Eighteen of our scholars graciously became our



*Dr. Matt Stolper and Dr. Emily Teeter (in distance) pour wine to attendees of the wine-and-dessert event Passport to the Middle East: Desserts in the Desert, June 11, 2008. Photo by Kaye Oberhausen*

## SPECIAL EVENTS

sommeliers for the evening, and while pouring, talked at a personal level about specific projects they are working on and topics of the ancient Near East. Tours of the Institute, given by François Gaudard, Norman Golb, and Katharyn Hanson, were wildly successful. This event could not have been possible without the generous support from Treasure Island Foods, our sponsor for the evening. They provided beautiful spreads of cheeses, desserts, and fruit, as well as all the wine for the evening. Andrea Dudek, Visiting Committee and Events Committee Member, donated two David Roberts lithograph prints that were raffled to an excited crowd; thanks so much to Andrea for donating these prints to the event. I also cannot thank enough the members of the Visiting Committee Events Committee for their cheerful hard work and invaluable advice when planning my first large-scale event here at the Institute. Special thanks to Debby Halpern, Gretel Braidwood, Andrea Dudek, and Mari Terman for volunteering at the event. Also, many thanks to all those who poured wine at the event: Steve Camp, Geoff Emberling, François Gaudard, Petra Goedegebuure, Norman Golb, Katharyn Hanson, Tom James, Ray Johnson, Kathleen Mineck, Clemens Reichel, John Sanders, David Schloen, Gil Stein, Matthew Stolper, Emily Teeter, Ray Tindel, Theo van den Hout, and Christopher Woods. Many thanks are also due to the countless volunteers and staff who helped me immensely throughout the entire evening — this event would not have been possible without you. Lastly, I would like to thank Monica Witczak, Sarah Sapperstein, Gil Stein, Steve Camp, Mariana Perlinac, D’Ann Condes, and Carla Hosein for all their help and support as I planned this event. It is a group effort to make events like these possible; I am so fortunate to have such a wonderful group in the administrative offices to turn to.

The last event of the fiscal year was a very nice tribute and lunch for Jean Grant, former photographer of the Oriental Institute. Jean dedicated 34 years of service to the Oriental Institute. John Larson, Oriental Institute Museum Archivist, gave a wonderful slide presentation in Breasted Hall highlighting Jean’s work, followed by a lunch in the LaSalle Banks Room. Faculty, staff, volunteers, and friends all came to thank Jean for her many years of dedicated service to the Institute. Special thanks to Cathy Dueñas and Terry Friedman who helped make the event very special for Jean. Also, thanks to John Larson for providing such a special retrospective of Jean’s work. Lastly, a very large thank you to Mariana Perlinac for helping to secure the lunch with me, and Monica Witczak for going out of her way to get special requests fulfilled.

Along with special events I have also taken on a marketing role here at the Oriental Institute. In April we were fortunate to have the Graduate School of Business (GSB) choose us for their Social Entrepreneurship Lab. This brought a highly motivated team of six to the Institute to learn about all the facets of marketing taking place here at the Oriental Institute, and to determine how we can improve our current efforts to expand and reach out to more of the Chicagoland community and beyond. For ten weeks the dedicated team analyzed our current situation and at the end presented us with a detailed report of future steps we can take to help market the Oriental Institute and ways to consolidate our current efforts. Many thanks to Toni Sandor Smith, Visiting Committee member, for recommending the Oriental Institute for the GSB lab class, and Linda Darragh, Adjunct Professor of Entrepreneurship, for choosing the Institute to be a part of this valuable experience. Also, thanks to all the Institute staff who took time out to meet with the team to give them a well-rounded view of the Institute. A heartfelt thanks to the team — Armin Afshar, Jessica Bliesner, Althea Cruz, Helen Douvogiannis, Norbert Ng’ethe, and Lotika Pai — for being absolutely wonderful to work with and for presenting a detailed and comprehensive report to us so we can begin taking thoughtful steps toward marketing the Oriental Institute.

I cannot begin to thank everyone at the Oriental Institute for making my transition here as smooth as possible. Coming into a brand-new position is never easy, but I have received a massive amount of encouragement and support as I define my role here. Thanks to Mariana Perlinac,



who is consistently going above and beyond to help me in countless ways. Also thanks to Carla Hosein and D'Ann Condes who are both so patient and kind. A special thanks to Monica Witzak and Sarah Sapperstein, who have both provided wonderful guidance to me as I learn the ropes. Last, but certainly not least, thanks to Gil Stein and Steve Camp for supporting and encouraging me as I continue to take a more active role here at the Institute. I could not have asked for a better environment to work in, and I look forward to the year ahead as we continue to offer more exciting and educational opportunities for our members and the community.

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## MEMBERSHIP

### Sarah Sapperstein

#### Statistics

At the close of the fiscal year, the Oriental Institute had 2,441 active members. Between July 1, 2006, and June 30, 2007, 349 new members joined the Institute.

#### Publications

With the assistance and guidance of the Publications Office, the Membership Office continued to publish *News & Notes* on a quarterly basis. The Fall 2007 issue focused on the special exhibit European Cartographers and the Ottoman World, 1500–1750: Maps from the Collection of O. J. Sopranos, and featured articles by Special Exhibit Curator Ian Manners, as well as highlights on the work of Erich Schmidt and the move of the Chicago Hittite Dictionary into the third floor office formerly occupied by the Chicago Assyrian Dictionary. In Winter 2008 our members were introduced to the science behind the conservation of the Oriental Institute collection, as well as the annual *Chicago House Bulletin* of the Epigraphic Survey. Spring 2008 featured an exclusive look at the special exhibit Catastrophe! The Looting and Destruction of Iraq's Past with a special article by McGuire Gibson. This issue also featured articles on the Research Archives and the Syriac Manuscript Project as other ways the Oriental Institute is involved in the conservation and protection of the ancient Near East. In Summer 2008 we celebrated the accomplishments of our archaeologists and researchers in the field as we put the focus on fieldwork, highlighting Nadine Moeller's excavations at Edfu, Egypt, and Geoff Emberling and Bruce William's work with the Oriental Institute team in Sudan.

#### Events

2007–2008 was a year full of events for members and supporters of the Oriental Institute. In an effort to regularize the events schedule and inform members of events earlier, we announced the entire 2007–2008 Members' Lecture series schedule in the early fall; as a result, we saw increased attendance to all the lectures and events throughout the year. The academic year began with the very successful film premiere of *Iran: Seven Faces of a Civilization*.

## MEMBERSHIP

Special Exhibit Curator Ian Manners joined us soon thereafter, giving members a behind-the-scenes look at some beautiful and rare maps on display for the special exhibit *European Cartographers and the Ottoman World, 1500–1750: Maps from the Collection of O. J. Sopranos*. This members' preview was preceded only the day before by *Maps and Martinis*, a special event exclusively for Breasted Society members, celebrating the collection of O. J. Sopranos and thanking him for his leadership on the Visiting Committee of the Oriental Institute.

Fall Members' Lectures followed, with presentations by Allison Thomason of Southern Illinois University on Neo-Assyrian palace artifacts, and Scott Branting of the Oriental Institute on modern mapping techniques of ancient Pteria, now known as Kerkenes Dağ.

Winter 2008 brought a visit from Dr. Harald Hauptmann of the Heidelberg Academy of Sciences and Humanities, who spoke to members on a new picture of the Neolithic Revolution in the Near East.

February saw the visit of Terry Wilfong, a University of Chicago alumnus now a professor at the University of Michigan, who spoke on oracles as indices of anxieties in late period Egypt; in March, David Schloen presented the latest finds from the Oriental Institute excavations at Zincirli, Turkey.

In April we were pleased to introduce Dr. Nadine Moeller, the newest member of the Oriental Institute faculty and director of excavations at Edfu, one of the most important sites in the study of urban development in Egypt. Dr. Moeller presented the history of Edfu and the latest excavation results in her lecture on April 2.

Not long after, a record group turned out for the opening of the special exhibit *Catastrophe! The Looting and Destruction of Iraq's Past*. The evening opened with a member and VIP reception in the Research Archives, giving our guests a chance to chat with Oriental Institute faculty, researchers, and special guests, including Donny George, former Director of the Iraq National Museum in Baghdad. This reception was immediately followed by a lecture presented by Dr. McGuire Gibson and was attended by our special guests as well as the public community, bringing our total headcount to well over 160. We learned throughout the evening that many public patrons had heard about the event during an NPR broadcast featuring Drs. Gibson and George. The evening concluded with an exhibit viewing and candlelight vigil marking the five-year anniversary of the looting of the Iraq Museum. The vigil, presented in conjunction with SAFE/Saving Antiquities for Everyone, was part of an international vigil network, where academic and cultural institutions held public moments of remembrance.

In spring we saw the visit of two scholars: Larry Stager of Harvard University and Stuart Tyson Smith of the University of California at Santa Barbara. Dr. Stager presented the most recent finds and updates on excavations at Ashkelon, a Philistine city in modern-day Israel. Dr. Smith spoke at the last Members' Lecture of the year, examining the rise of the Nubian Dynasty of Kush as a kingdom both independent of and closely related to Egypt.

Before the year came to a close we celebrated our wonderful researchers in the event *Passport to the Middle East: Desserts in the Desert*. This wine-and-dessert event, generously sponsored by Treasure Island Foods, brought our members and patrons together with scholars and researchers in the Oriental Institute Research Archives and Museum galleries to enjoy a selection of wines, cheeses, and desserts. Members and patrons had the opportunity to meet scholars and learn about their projects; specialized gallery tours and artifact question-and-answer sessions proved to be highlights of the evening. This special, bi-annual event would not have been possible without the tireless efforts of Director of Development Monica Witczak and Special Events Coordinator Kaye Oberhausen, along with the Oriental Institute Visiting Committee Events Committee. Special thanks are also due to the many volunteers who helped the evening run smoothly.

In the coming year, we will be exploring possibilities of Web casts, podcasts, and recordings of Members' Lectures and other lecture events for distribution across membership and other public communities.

## Travel

2007–2008 was an exciting year for travel, bringing new itineraries and new friends on international and domestic journeys.

In October 2007 I had the pleasure of escorting a group of sixteen passengers to San Diego, California, to visit an exhibit of the Dead Sea Scrolls at the San Diego Natural History Museum. We were accompanied by Dr. Norman Golb, Ludwig Rosenberger Professor of Jewish History and Civilization in the Department Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations and at the Oriental Institute. Dr. Golb presented a lecture on the Qumran region and the theories of the Scrolls' origin, authorship, and interpretation. The event proved to be a great success; our passengers were open-minded, understanding, and eager to learn. Professor Golb led the group through the exhibit and illuminated the manuscripts as our group got up close and personal with these ancient writings.

March 2008 brought a new itinerary and some new faces on our trip to Egypt: Unseen Egypt, escorted by Dr. Robert Ritner. This itinerary allowed our passengers to see some of the most exclusive sites in lesser traveled parts of the country and took us through Middle Egypt, the Fayoum, and Lake Nasser regions.

In April/May of 2008, Dr. Clemens Reichel embarked on a journey with twenty members and patrons of the Oriental Institute through the Umayyad past of Jordan, Syria, and Spain. Originally planned as a trip only through Syria and Spain, the addition of the stop in Jordan due to flight complications was a welcome opportunity to visit some rarely seen sites in the desert.

Each of these itineraries, both thematically based and built from the ground up by the Oriental Institute and our travel operators, were new ventures for all involved, and each presented their own challenges, not limited to medical emergencies and spreading wildfires. Oriental Institute travel programs are unique in that our passengers experience exclusive site visits and on-site learning privileges not enjoyed by other institutions or travel groups. Even through obstacles and oddities faced by our passengers, appreciation and accolades are due to the scholar-escorts of our trips, who consistently go above and beyond the call of duty both at home and abroad. Additional travel information is available on the Oriental Institute Web site, <http://oi.uchicago.edu>.

## Administration and Behind the Scenes

The Membership Office grew and changed significantly in 2007–2008.

The Membership Office is pleased to announce the graduation of Ms. Tanvi Solanki and Mr. Joseph Apodaca from the College at the University of Chicago. Both Tanvi and Joey have been a vital part of this office for more than this fiscal year alone, and I am personally immensely appreciative of their patience and help in the office and at our many events.

We are also happy to report that Room 233 is now home to both Oriental Institute Membership and Special Events. In fall 2007 the Membership Office was pleased to welcome Kaye Oberhausen as Special Events Coordinator at the Oriental Institute. Kaye assists in event planning throughout the Institute, including academic conferences and special VIP events, and works primarily through Development/Membership.

Most of the fiscal year administrative duties have been focused on the integration of membership as a benefit of donorship, extending the benefits of membership to donors who give gifts to

## MEMBERSHIP

any project or program at the Oriental Institute. We also printed new membership cards with new imagery of the Development Office, moving toward a consolidated branding of the Institute.

Work has begun to form an extensive cooperation with the Office of Philanthropic Affairs at the University of Chicago, who can help raise money for our Annual Fund and Membership through otherwise untapped University of Chicago communities who may not have experienced the Oriental Institute Museum or programs. The OPA will be helping us construct acquisition mailings and solicitations based on best fundraising practices, and reach a variety of potential donor communities we otherwise would not have access to.

Furthermore, in a fluke of discovery during an annual office-cleaning excavation, Monica Witczak unearthed record of Oriental Institute involvement in a pan-Chicago organization called the Chicago Cultural Cooperative. This organization, composed of over twenty membership and subscriber institutions, is a forum for networking and list-exchange management between institutions in Chicago. The group has provided us with fruitful opportunity to share and learn best practices in membership, development, patron services, and other community relations items, as well as gain access to otherwise untapped donor communities across the city of Chicago.

The North American Reciprocal Museum program, accessible to our Associate and Breasted Donors (\$100+) has expanded to include well over 150 institutions across the North American continent and has just added a select few popular attractions in Central America. Any Associate or Breasted Oriental Institute Member need only present their membership card with the small “North American Reciprocal” gold label on it to enjoy the benefits of a NARM institution’s membership during their visit. For more information about this program and for a list of participating institutions, please contact the Membership Office.

## Publicity and Advertising

The Membership Office has seen great success in the continued use of html e-mail reminders and announcements for our events, travel programs, and other opportunities. As more members sign onto the Web, we hope we will see increased traffic to <http://oi.uchicago.edu>, where our events calendar holds up-to-date information on travel programs, lecture and special exhibit events, as well as museum and research information here at the Institute.

Thanks to the hard work of our IT team both at the Oriental Institute and the University of Chicago, our patron communities can now sign up for membership online at [oi.uchicago.edu](http://oi.uchicago.edu). Similarly, members can renew anytime online by clicking the “Join Online” link in the Get Involved page of the Web site; because new members and all online submissions are still processed manually in the Membership Office, we are able to determine if your submission is a renewal or new member signup. Members or patrons may also give the gift of membership to a friend or family member using this online form. As always, we continue to accept gifts, renewals, and gift memberships by phone with credit card, by mail, and by fax. We do not recommend sending credit card information through e-mail, but will gladly call back anyone expressing interest through this electronic means.

We have developed somewhat of a consistent media presence, both in the Chicago vicinity as well as in national publications. This is very much the fruit of the tireless efforts of Emily Teeter, whose report is featured earlier in this volume, as well as our many wonderful researchers who continue to work on groundbreaking projects that speak to people from across our country and around our globe. Due to the success of last year’s advertisements in *Archaeology Magazine*, we will continue to use that publication as a means of advertising, along with exploring other venues for advertising for programs that welcome Chicago as well as other regional audiences.

The Membership Office has purchased advertisements for our new travel programs: Egypt and the East, departing March 2009, and Splendors of the Nile, departing November 2009. By the end of 2008 we will have been featured in two issues of *Archaeology Magazine*, with a targeted, global readership of over 600,000 both in paper and Internet subscriptions. We will explore text/classified ads during this year to experiment with money-saving advertising methods, as well as frequency and repetition of advertising.

Many thanks are owed to Tom Urban and Leslie Schramer in the Oriental Institute Publications Office for their enduring patience, diligence, and kindness in coordinating design and publication projects for members and supporters over the past year. With the recent increase in postage, we are exploring ways to consolidate more information into less frequent but more graphically appealing, high quality event notices that we hope members and donors will not only use to learn about our events, but also enjoy as visual representations of our institution.

I owe a debt of gratitude to the entire Oriental Institute research and administrative staff for their support over the past year. Special thanks go to Emily Teeter, Norman Golb, Robert Ritner, and Clemens Reichel for their kindness and leadership for our travel program and other programming. A thank you to Geoff Emberling, McGuire Gibson, Katharyn Hanson, Erik Lindahl, and Adam Lubin for their patience and help with organizing Museum events in our galleries for members and supporters. A special thank you also to Carole Krucoff, Jessica Caracci, Wendy Ennes, Cathy Dueñas, and Terry Friedman for their kindness and support of membership and our programming.

Finally, a very big thank you to Gil Stein, Steve Camp, Monica Witczak, Kaye Oberhausen, Marianna Perlinac, D'Ann Condes, and Carla Hosein for their patience, support, and enthusiasm for the Membership Program and its future. Over the next year, members can look forward to increased Members' benefits and a wider variety of event formats and locations. Additionally, we will be working on new graphic advertising and announcements for our events, increased public and media outreach, and more opportunities for families to enjoy both programming and membership at the Oriental Institute. I look forward to a great year ahead.

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## DEVELOPMENT

### Monica Witczak

#### Overview

In fiscal year 2007–2008, the Oriental Institute raised \$3,192,612 in gifts and grants. Among the notable gifts received were a bequest of \$867,500 from the Trust Estate of Erica Reiner, a bequest of \$514,950 from the Trust Estate of Marion Cowan, a grant of \$200,000 from the Getty Foundation for the Persepolis Fortification Archive, and a grant from the Packard Humanities Institute in the amount of \$158,923 to fund the final season of a salvage excavation in Sudan. Additionally, the following foundations and corporations provided support for our programs: The Dellenback Family Foundation, Hyde Park Bank, The National Geographic Society, PARSA Community Foundation, Treasure Island Foods, The World Monument Fund, and the University

## DEVELOPMENT

of Chicago's Women's Board. We thank all our generous supporters who made this financial success possible.

## The Research Endowment Campaign

The Research Endowment Campaign, launched in the fall of 2006, is a five-year campaign to increase funding for the core research areas of the Oriental Institute providing a stable and predictable level of support for this work.

The Research Endowment Campaign targets five crucial areas that require long-term financial resources:

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### • Research Archives

This endowment will support the Oriental Institute's research archives. Containing more than 45,000 volumes, it is the foremost library on the Ancient Near East in the Western hemisphere. This endowment will fund:

1. The purchase of new collection
2. The transition to digital holdings (in parallel to print holdings)
3. The construction of new stacks and other infrastructure to house collections and address growing space restrictions due to the natural growth of collections
4. The completion of the online catalog to cover all acquisitions made prior to 1990



*The collections of the Oriental Institute Research Archives span the history of the Near East from prehistoric times through the rise of Islam*



*Digitizing the Oriental Institute's vast collection of historic and modern maps is one of the many projects of the Center for Ancient Middle Eastern Landscapes (CAMEL)*

### • Technology

This endowment will support the technological needs of all areas of the Institute by funding:

1. Computers
2. Programming support
3. Satellite imagery
4. Remote sensing equipment

### • Ancient Languages

This endowment will support the writing of dictionaries such as the Chicago Assyrian Dictionary, the Chicago Demotic Dictionary and the Chicago Hittite Dictionary. It will also support text-based research in Egyptology, Assyriology, Iranian languages, ancient Hebrew and Northwest Semitic by funding:

1. Research travel costs
2. Programming support
3. Editing support



*The Oriental Institute is home to the most comprehensive program for the study of Hittitology in the world*



*The over 150,000 registered objects in the Oriental Institute Museum hold extraordinary importance for researchers*

### • Museum Holdings and Special Collections

The Oriental Institute's museum holds a position of extraordinary importance for researchers. Many of these collections form the primary or only stratigraphic record for key regions of the Fertile Crescent. The goal is to make these collections more accessible for study and publication by Institute scholars as well as those from other institutions. Museum exhibits are also a key part of the Oriental Institute's mission to communicate the results of its research to the public. We plan a regularized program of mounting two rotating special exhibits each year, to be displayed in the Marshall and Doris Holleb Family Gallery for Special Exhibits. This endowment will fund:

1. Grants to researchers
2. Curatorial fees
3. Exhibit installation
4. Loan fees
5. Special exhibit development

### • Archaeological Fieldwork

This endowment will support current excavations in Egypt, Syria, and Turkey and provide resources for future fieldwork throughout the Middle East by funding:

1. Field project start-up costs
2. Building infrastructure and security to protect the excavation sites
3. Student travel costs
4. Laboratory work such as radiocarbon dating



*Archaeologists at the site of Hamoukar, Syria, investigate the origins of cities and warfare in ancient Mesopotamia*

DEVELOPMENT

I am pleased to report that after two years, we have reached the halfway point in this campaign, raising \$1,595,956 in cash, pledges, and bequests. Many thanks to all those whose contributions helped us to reach this important phase in the campaign:

**Research Endowment Campaign Donors**

**Platinum Level (\$100,000 or more)**

The Trust Estate of Marion Cowan  
Arthur & Lee Herbst  
John & Jeanne Rowe

**Gold Level (\$50,000 to \$99,999)**

The Trust Estate of Alwin C. Carus  
Misty & Lewis Gruber  
Robert & Janet Helman  
Roger & Marjorie Nelson  
O. J. & Angeline Sopranos

**Bronze Level (\$25,000 to \$49,999)**

James & Margaret Foorman  
Joan Fortune  
Richard & Mary Gray  
Howard G. Haas  
Thomas & Linda Heagy  
Joseph Lach  
Lois Schwartz  
Toni Sandor Smith

**\$10,000 to \$24,999**

Alan Brodie  
Isak & Nancy Gerson  
Neil King & Diana Hunt King  
David & Carlotta Maher  
Ann Roberts  
Francis & Lorna Straus  
Marjorie Webster

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Charles M. Adelman  
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Julie Antelman  
John J. Barbie  
Thomas & Francesca Bennett  
Julia Beringer  
Gretel Braidwood & Raymond Tindel  
Bruce & Joyce Chelberg



**Below \$10,000 (cont.)**

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Ruth Horwich	Roger David Isaacs
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Gil J. Stein	Jerome & Hadassah Stein
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George R. Sundell	Gerald Sufrin
Robert M. Taras	Patricia Tuchman
Marlene & Russell Tuttle	Dorothy Anne Wedner
Willard E. White	Vic Whitmore
Robert I. Wilson	Wendall W. Wilson
Elizabeth Wissler	Lowell T. Wynn
Mary Young	

**Planned Gifts**

We are most grateful to those individuals who have made a gift by designating the Oriental Institute as the beneficiary of a life income gift or bequest. Gifts such as these provide expendable and endowed support for a wide variety of projects across all areas of the Institute. In the past year, we have received planned gifts from the following donors:

The Trust Estate of Alwin C. Carus  
 The Alwin Carus Mineral Trust  
 The Trust Estate of Marion Cowan  
 The Trust Estate of Erica Reiner  
 Arthur & Lee Herbst

VISITING COMMITTEE

**2007–2008 ORIENTAL INSTITUTE  
VISITING COMMITTEE**

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\* *denotes Life Member*

### Visiting Committee

The fall meeting of the Visiting Committee was held on November 15th at the Quadrangle Club. Dr. Norman Golb shared his perspective on the Dead Sea Scrolls with the committee. Cocktails and dinner followed the meeting.

The spring Visiting Committee meeting was held on May 12th at the Standard Club. The faculty presentation was given by Nadine Moeller, the newest addition to the faculty. Nadine discussed her work at the site of Edfu in southern Egypt.

In late summer of 2005, the Executive Committee voted to establish three subcommittees to assist the Director of the Institute in furthering its goals. These subcommittees continue to contribute significantly to the planning and execution of Institute strategies for increasing both our visibility and fundraising capacity.

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### **In Honor of Tom Van Eynde**

Mr. Gene F. Marzenko

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July 1, 2007–June 30, 2008

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Tuesday and Thursday to Saturday 10:00 am–6:00 pm

Wednesday 10:00 am–8:30 pm

Sunday 12:00 noon–6:00 pm

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